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HISTORY OF ENGLAND

FROM THE

ACCESSION OF HENRY III. TO THE DEATH
OF RICHARD III., (1216-1485 A.D.)

BY

J. DAVIES,

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON,

*Author of "Manuals" of Genesis, St. Matthew, &c.;
the Church Catechism, and the Book of Common Prayer; and
the History and Literature of the Stuart Period,
the Tudor Period, &c.*



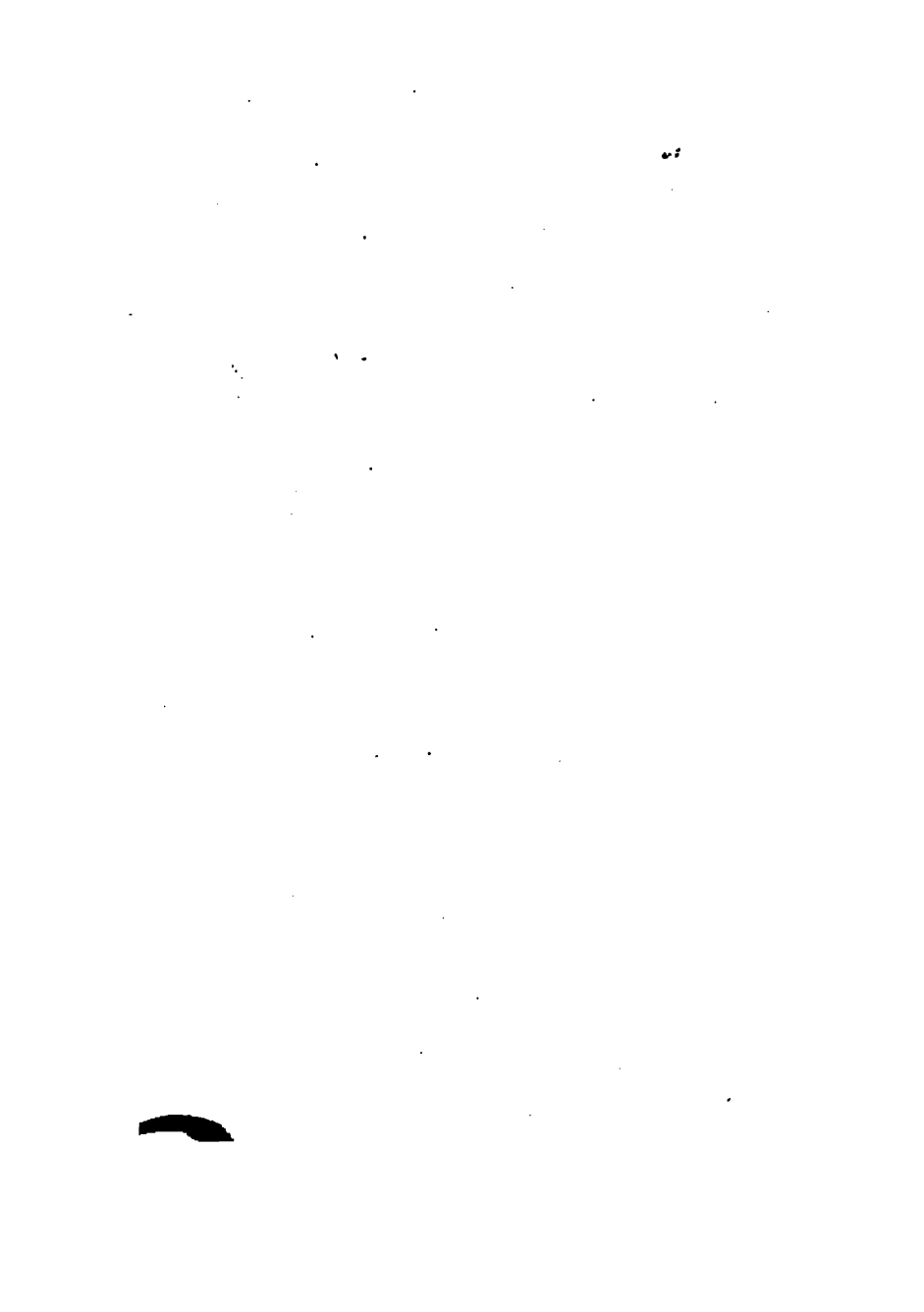
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ENGLISH HISTORY,

1216-1485.

House of Plantagenet.

HENRY III., ("of Winchester.")

Dates of Birth, Accession, and Death.—At Winchester, Oct. 1, 1207: Oct. 28, (crowned—at Gloucester, whither Pembroke carried him), 1216-1272, Nov. 16, at Westminster, worn out by old age and political anxieties.

Descent.—Eldest son of King John, by Isabella of Angoulême.

Claim to the Throne.—*Good*,—he being the nearest living lineal descendant of Henry II.

Married—1236, Eleanor, (daughter of Raymond Berenger, Count of Provence), 1222-1291.—A spoilt child, frivolous, petulant, and self-willed, and married at 14, with judgment unformed and education incomplete, she entered upon her trying sphere under very unfavorable auspices, which were abundantly verified. She made use of her position to benefit her own countrymen alone, and treated the English with arrogant contempt, while her reckless extravagance led her to practise, or to instigate her husband to, the most ruthless exactions: thus, she compelled all London-bound vessels valuably freighted to discharge cargo at Queenhithe Wharf (named after herself), because the tolls thereat were her perquisite,—and, on occasion of Henry's absence on the Continent, actually sent the Lord Mayor and the sheriffs of London to prison, for resisting an extortionate demand, an act which greatly embittered the Londoners, who shewed their displeasure by hooting the Queen, on her way by water to

Windsor, crying out, "Down with the witch!" and pouring mud-volleys into her barge, until the Lord Mayor himself dispersed them.

Her character and conduct rendered her "the most unpopular queen England ever saw."

She survived her husband, retiring, upon his death, to Amesbury Nunnery, where she died.

Issue.—Edward I.,—Edmund, ("Crookback"), Earl of Lancaster, *d.* 1296, while commanding an army in Guienne,—Margaret, (*m.* Alexander III. of Scotland), *d.* 1273,—Beatrice, *m.* John, Duke of Brittany,—and several children who died young.

Character.—Utterly deficient in mental and moral strength, and, consequently, quite unfit to occupy a throne, in the times and at the crisis in which he lived.

Mild, gentle, amiable, virtuous, and pious—well adapted to adorn private life.

His main faults—extravagance, promise-breaking, and readiness to sacrifice anything to present convenience and ease—found their source in his feeble, easily-led, disposition, not in a false, insincere nature, as many have represented.

Fortunately, "his incapacity was productive rather of inconvenience to himself than of misery to his subjects. Under his weak, but pacific, sway, the nation grew more rapidly in wealth and prosperity than it had done under any of his military predecessors."

WARS.

1. WITH THE BARONS AND LOUIS, (THE DAUPHIN), (commenced under John), 1216-17.

Origin.—John's collecting an army, chiefly mercenaries, for the purpose of evading the fulfilment of *Magna Charta*.

The Barons, in extremity, offered the Crown to Louis, who accepted it, and landed, (May, 1216), with an army, being joined by his inviters.

Events under John.—John at first retreated to the West, and the Dauphin gained possession of nearly all the counties around London. The King then marched North, and took

Lincoln,—and, proceeding, thence, Southward, ravaging as he went, found his cause improving, many of the

barons, distrustful, leaving Louis, and joining him. Before, however, he could measure swords with the Dauphin, John died.

Events under Henry III.—Pembroke, having, by wise conciliation, won over many of the barons still supporting Louis, whose cause was hereby greatly weakened, and against whom the Pope thundered reiterated excommunications, took the field, and, marching North, encountered the allies in the *battle of*

Lincoln, (called, from the great spoil the conquerors obtained, "the Fair of Lincoln"), May 20, 1217.—*English* (royalists) completely *victorious*.

E. commander.—William Marshal, Earl of Pembroke.

Fr., &c. " —Le Comte de Perche.

The enemy were driven in hopeless rout, and with great slaughter, from the city, and Louis, having, thus, lost nearly all his army, was cooped up in London. He had, however, previously to the battle, sent for reinforcements, which, three months after "the Fair," set sail from France, in a powerful fleet of 80 large ships, with numerous smaller vessels. This armament was encountered, by a fleet of 40 small craft from the Cinque Ports, in *battle*

Off Dover, Aug. 24, 1217.—*English victorious*.

E. com.—Hubert de Burgh.

F. " —Eustache le Moine, (= Eustace, the Monk), a noted pirate.

The English, having the wind in their favor, threw into the air quantities of quicklime, which blinded the enemy, and, then, bearing down upon them thus disabled, boarded their ships, and, with axes, cut the rigging, thus rendering them unmanageable, and an easy prey, scarcely a ship escaping destruction or capture.

London was now *besieged*, by De Burgh, and Louis, seeing his case to be hopeless, accepted offers of

Peace, Sept., 1217.

Articles.—1. Louis to release those English barons who had sworn fealty to him, and Henry to grant them a full amnesty,—and the like terms to be offered to the Princes of Scotland and Wales.

2. Arrangements to be made for the discharging of all debts, and the liberation of prisoners.

3. (By after agreement)—Henry to pay Louis 10,000 marks, (to help him to discharge his debts), and Louis to do his best to procure the restoration to England of the French provinces lost by John.

The Dauphin, after signing the Treaty, evacuated England, and returned to France.

(Many of the barons held the castles that had fallen into their hands, and did not return to their fealty, till after Pembroke's death).

By his wisdom and courage in managing this contest, "which seemed to be founded on the most incurable hatred and jealousy," Pembroke saved England from becoming, (perhaps permanently), a tributary province of France.

2. WITH FRANCE.

(1.) 1224-1231.

Origin.—*Louis VIII.*, instead of keeping the promise which, (as just narrated), he, when Dauphin, had made, to do his best to obtain for England the restoration of the provinces she had lost in France, seemed bent on expelling the English from what territory they still held therein, for he *invaded Poitou, and captured Rochelle and the country on the right bank of the Garonne, 1224.*

Thereupon, *Henry*, summoning a Council, obtained a grant of one-fifteenth of their moveables, to defray the expense of an expedition, and *sent over a force* under the Earl of Salisbury, his uncle.

Events.—The progress of the French arms was stayed, and some Gascon castles were reduced, but Louis kept Rochelle and his other conquests in Guienne.

On the accession of *Louis IX.*, a minor, Henry conveyed an army across to St. Malo, and marched to Nantes, but accomplished nothing, wasting his time and resources on silly show and amusements. The War was ended by a

Truce, 1231.

(2.) 1242.

Origin.—*The Count of Marche*, (who had married his former *fiancée*, John's widow, Eleanor), *having defied his feudal lord*, the Count of Poitou, *brother of Louis IX.*, *Henry was persuaded*, by his mother, (who allured him by the prospect of recovering his lost possessions in France), *to support the revolted baron.*

Events.—In spite of the strong opposition of a majority of his barons, who, justly, urged that the French King had not broken the truce, Henry determined on invading France.

Refused aid, therefor, by the Council, he obtained a large amount, by private request, from those barons favorable to the enterprise, and, with 30 hogsheads of silver, and 300 Knights, sailed from Portsmouth, and, landing near the mouth of the Garonne, led his forces into Guienne, where he was to be joined by his step-father, who, however, failing to appear, he was left to struggle single-handed with Louis, who, with a large army, advanced to meet him, and engaged him in the *battle of*

Taillebourg, July 19.—French victorious.

Fr. com.—Louis IX.

E. —Henry III.

The English, seeing themselves immensely outnumbered, saved themselves by retreating, Henry himself barely escaping, by the address of his brother Richard, who, appearing before Louis in a pilgrim-garb, succeeded in obtaining an armistice till night.

On the morrow, Louis, following up his advantage, renewed *battle, at*

Saintes, July 20.—French victorious, (having a decided advantage, though the English claimed the victory).

Fr. com.—Louis IX.

E. —Henry III.

The English monarch, after this defeat, fled, in hot haste, leaving his military chest and the ornaments of his chapel, to the enemy, thus closing his brief and inglorious campaign. The two Kings shortly after made a five years'

Truce,—but there elapsed a long interval before the ratification of

Peace, May 20, 1259.

Articles.—1. Henry to renounce all claim to Normandy, Anjou, Maine, and Poitou.

2. Louis to cede the Limousin, Perigord, and Querci,—Saintonge and the Agenois to follow on the death of their then-occupant,—to ensure to England the peaceable pos-

session of all its French possessions,—and to pay a large sum of money.

This treaty, decidedly favoring the English, as it does, reflects the highest honor on Louis, whose profound regard for justice forbade his taking advantage of the distracted state of Henry's dominions.

3. WITH THE KING OF CASTILE, 1253.

Origin.—The Castilian monarch undertook an invasion of

Guienne, but, in the

Event—was repelled by Henry, who, however, by this enterprise, involved himself and his nobility in heavy debt, which served to augment the Barons' discontent.

4. WITH WALES,—See "Welsh Affairs."

5. WITH THE BARONS, 1233-34.

Origin.—Henry's favoritism for Des Roches and his interloping fellow-countrymen.

The Barons, forming a

League, 1233, demanded the dismissal of Des Roches and the other foreigners, which being refused, by Henry, they took up arms.

Event.—The quarrel proved bloodless, owing to the interference of the Primate, who, by threatening excommunication, induced the King to grant the Barons' demands.

5. "THE BARONS," (or, CIVIL), WAR, 1261-3: (renewed) 1264-66.

Origin of the contest generally.—The Barons took up arms in consequence of Henry's misgovernment.

(For account of events preceding the commencement of hostilities, see "Political, &c., Affairs.")

Origin (immediately) of the War, 1261-63.—The Barons flew to arms, on Henry's forcibly resuming the government.

Events.—De Montfort, returning from France, whither he had, temporarily, withdrawn, headed his party, and took

Gloucester, Worcester, and Bridgenorth,—and, ravaging the estates of the Royalists and the foreign interlopers, marched towards London, which had pronounced against the King.

On the Barons' approach, Henry submitted, pledging himself to put the Royal castles in their hands,—banish all foreigners,—and confirm the Provisions of Oxford, when revised. This revision proving a knotty point, it was finally decided, by the two parties, that the

Dispute should be referred, for arbitration, to Louis IX.

Thereupon, hostilities ceased for the time.

Origin (immediately) of the War, 1264 - 66.—

Louis' award, (Jan. 1264, at a Congress at Amiens), *displeasing the Barons*: conforming to the letter of the law, and to his nice scrupulousness of conscience, and not distinguishing the broad principles of equity upon which the question should have been decided, Louis declared that the Provisions of Oxford were null and void, as subversive of the Royal authority, but, at the same time, that charters, statutes, and customs, relating to the people's liberties, in force before the passing of the said Provisions, must be observed.

The Barons declared the award hopelessly contradictory, since it established Magna Charta, while annulling the statutes, (*viz.*, the Provisions), which had grown out of it,—refused, in spite of their oath, to be bound by it,—and *resumed hostilities*.

Events.—The recommencement of the War was marked in London, which Leicester held, by pillage of foreign merchants, and by massacreing the Jews.

The Royalists sacked

Nottingham,—which was favorable to the Barons, and committed other outrages, in various districts.

The King, after awhile, fixed his head-quarters in Sussex, whither Leicester, with large forces, followed, and brought him to *battle*, at

Lewes, May 13, (or 14), 1264.—Barons victorious.

Barons' com.—Simon de Montfort.

Royalist coms.—Henry III.; Richard, King of the Romans; Prince Edward.

Prince Edward, early in the contest, broke the Londoners, (15,000 strong), and, burning to avenge upon them their insult to his mother, (previously narrated), pursued them four miles from the field, by which rash withdrawal the Royal forces were so weakened that, after a severe struggle, they succumbed, the youngster returning, after

his pursuit, only to find his party routed, and his father and brother prisoners. 10,000 men, in all, fell in this engagement.

On the following day, Edward, after an interview with his father, agreed to a treaty, called

"**The Mise,**" (an old French term meaning "*treaty*"), "**of Lewes.**"

Articles.—1. Princes Edward, and Henry, (son of the King of the Romans), to be hostages for their respective fathers.

2. All prisoners to be, interchangeably, released.

3. All matters in dispute to be referred to the next Parliament, and those not settled by it to be decided by arbitrators appointed by three bishops and three nobles of France.

The two princes surrendered, but De Montfort, instead of releasing the King, kept the whole Royal family in confinement, and violated the rest of the treaty.

The Parliament of 1265, (assembled, professedly, to decide on what terms Edward and his cousin might be released), agreed to Henry's being allowed the society of his son, on condition of De Montfort's receiving the county of Chester and other fiefs.

Leicester's ambition, arrogance, and greedy appropriation of estates, together with his admission of the popular element to Parliament, soon caused jealousy and ill-will amongst the other barons, and, at least, two of them, the Earls of Derby, and Gloucester, his main supporters, began coquetting with the other side. De Montfort determined to employ his great power to crush his rivals, and commenced by arresting Derby, on a charge of correspondence with the Royalists, whereupon Gloucester deserted his leader, *declared openly for the King*, and armed his own retainers in the Royal cause. Joined by Henry's supporters and numerous malcontents, he was soon at the head of a formidable army.

Leicester hastened west, with a large force, carrying in his train the King, and Prince Edward, and took up quarters at Hereford, where, after much negotiation, a treaty was opened with Gloucester. While, however, this was ratifying, young *Edward escaped, and joined Gloucester*, at Ludlow. Repudiating all idea of an arrangement, the

Prince at once headed the assembled force, and took the field, advancing against Leicester's son, who was bringing reinforcements to his father, and meeting him in *battle, at*

Kenilworth.—*Royalists victorious.*

R. com.—Prince Edward.

B. „ —De Montfort, the Younger, whose men, taken by surprise, were completely routed, while he himself barely escaped, in a boat, across the lake, to the Castle.

The King's army now marched against Leicester, who had advanced into Worcestershire, where he was brought to *battle, at*

Evesham, Aug. 4, 1265.—*Royalists victorious.*

R. com.—Prince Edward.

B. „ —Simon de Montfort, who, at first sight, mistook the approaching army for the expected reinforcements, but was soon undeceived, whereupon he cried, "Now, may the Lord have mercy on our souls, for our bodies are in the enemy's power"! Nevertheless, he fought fiercely, but the Royalists were too numerous, and the contest soon ended, De Montfort, his eldest son, Henry, and all the rebel barons and knights but ten, falling. The King had been placed, by Leicester, in the fore-rank of the battle, and being in mail and, so, unrecognisable by his party, received a wound, and, falling, would have been slain, had he not cried out to his assailant, "Hold! fellow! I am Harry of Winchester," and his helmet, slipping, revealed his face, whereupon the Prince caused him to be removed to a place of safety. De Montfort's corpse was shamefully mangled, by the victors. *This battle decided the contest.*

There was assembled, soon after, to determine what should be done to those concerned in the late revolt, a

Parliament, at Winchester,—which decreed that

1. All grants made during Henry's captivity should be revoked.

2. London should forfeit its charter.

3. De Montfort's family should be banished.

4. His supporters should lose their estates.

The Provisions of Oxford, also, were annulled.

The severity of these terms was the means of protracting disorder, Kenilworth Castle holding out, and the

barons dispossessed of their estates carrying on a predatory warfare, from the forests, where they sheltered.

Prince Edward set himself to reduce the kingdom to order, and attempted the *siege of*

Kenilworth Castle, 1265-1266,—which resisted all his attacks. At length, it having been suggested to him that the decisions of the Parliament had been too stern, the Prince caused a committee to be appointed, to reconsider the question : the result was the

Dictum of Kenilworth,—by which

1. The rebels might obtain pardon and restoration of estates, on payment to the then occupants of the latter of sums ranging in amount from one to seven years' purchase.

2. It was provided that the liberties of the Church should be preserved, and Magna Charta kept, by the King.

Thereupon

Kenilworth Castle surrendered, Decr. 9, 1266.

Discontents still continuing, though hostilities had ceased, there was held a

Parliament, at Marlborough, 1267,—which enacted some of the most beneficial of the statutes formerly made by the Barons, but which had been annulled after Evesham.

POLITICAL, &c., AFFAIRS.

Henry, being a minor, at his accession, the Earl Marshal of England, the Earl of Pembroke, being, (since it was a time of war), by his office, the head of the government, assumed the charge of the young King, and, at once, procured his coronation, at which, besides the usual oath, he, to secure the support of Rome against Louis, swore fealty to the Pope for the kingdoms of England and Ireland, and did homage to the Legate, who was present, therefor.

Immediately after, there assembled a

GREAT COUNCIL, AT BRISTOL, 1216,—at which there was a *revision, (with several omissions and alterations), and*

Confirmation of Magna Charta, and a unanimous election of the

EARL OF PEMBROKE, PROTECTOR AND REGENT, 1216-

1219.—Besides the salvation of the kingdom from French domination, which he secured, Pembroke caused a *second Confirmation of the Great Charter, 1217.*

Dying, this great and able patriot was succeeded by **HUBERT DE BURGH**, the Grand Justiciary, as **REGENT**, and **PETER DES ROCHES**, a Poictevin, Bishop of Winchester, as **PROTECTOR** of the King.

The chief power was in the hands of De Burgh, who, however, found himself seriously hampered by the rivalry of Des Roches, (who, while the Justiciary sought support from the native English, established a party composed of the foreigners who had come into the country, under John), and by the refractory conduct of many of the barons, who, taking advantage of an unsettled minority, retained, in defiance of the Crown, the Royal castles which they had seized, or had had entrusted, by the late Protector, to their keeping.

Some years were occupied in the reduction of these fortresses, amongst which was

Bedford Castle,—which was invested, and *taken*, by Henry, himself, after a regular siege, 1224 : eighty knights and others were hanged by Hubert, who treated the disloyal generally with great severity.

The holder of this fortress being a foreigner, Des Roches grew alarmed, and quitted England for the Holy Land, on pretext of pilgrimage, leaving De Burgh master of the field.

The latter's regency, like that of his predecessor, was signalized by a

Confirmation of Magna Charta, 1225,—assented to by Henry as the condition of the Council's granting him a supply for his French expedition,—*with* some alterations, of which the chief was the *omission* of the *clause prohibiting the levying of aids or scutages without the consent of Parliament.*

This was the final revision of the Charter : it was often afterwards *confirmed*, (thrice more—making *six times, in all—under Henry*), but underwent no further alteration. The Magna Charta on our Statute Book is taken from the roll of 25 Ed. I., which is only an "*inspeximus*," (i.e., a confirmation), of Henry's revision of 1225.

De Burgh, left without check, and having a complete ascendancy over the King, (who displayed towards him

the most unbounded affection and favor), took the fullest advantage of his position to enrich himself with castles, manors, and wardships,—to secure the sister of the Scotch King for wife,—and to obtain, from Henry, the title of Earl of Kent, and the appointment of Chief Justiciary for life.

His greed and arrogance rendering him unpopular, he induced Parliament to declare

Henry of age, 1227,—hoping to maintain his influence with the King, and, so, enjoy the protection of Royalty's full power. He succeeded, thus, in retaining his position until the unfortunate expedition to France, 1230, the blame of the failure being laid upon him. Just at this juncture, Peter des Roches returned to England, and the weak King, receiving the Bishop with effusion, cast off his rival. Soon after

De Burgh's disgrace, which took place **1321**,—Henry, being in want of money, was bidden by the fallen favorite's enemies to take it from the late Regent and his relatives, since they had, for years, been accumulating at the expense of the Crown. Taking the hint, the King, 1232, summoned De Burgh to answer for his alleged peculations, and to defend himself from other grave charges, amongst which was that of having hanged Constantine, a citizen of London, without trial.

The ex-favorite, seeing his ruin pre-determined, took sanctuary at Merton, whence he was dragged with every indignity, and conveyed, half-naked and tied on a horse, to London. Henry, not caring to incur the obloquy of violating sanctuary, sent him back, with orders, however, to besiege the place, and starve him into surrender, which was done. Being allowed, by the intervention of the Bishop of Dublin, five months' liberty, to prepare his defence, Hubert went to Bury St. Edmunds, to see his wife, and was there, again, seized. He was, now, transferred from prison to prison, until he effected his escape into Wales. In 1234, he was pardoned, and received back the patrimonial part of his estates, (all of which had been declared forfeit), but bore no further part in public affairs, and died in 1243, in obscurity—a striking example of the fickle fortune of favorites!

On Hubert's fall, the chief power fell into his rival's hands, and

DES ROCHES was *virtually* **REGENT 1231-1234**,—the King's influence being nominal and secondary.

The new favorite was a man of lofty courage, and great ability, but, unfortunately, of arbitrary principles. He had, formerly, been left, by John, (when on a French expedition), Justiciary and Regent, and had, by his harsh and unconstitutional rule, done much to cause the Baron's league against his master.

Placed again in supreme authority, he pursued his former policy, in which he found Henry only too ready to coincide. Distrusting the English, and with a view to counterbalancing the power of the native nobility, Des Roches successfully advised the King to invite over large numbers of Poitevins and other foreigners, upon whom were bestowed all the offices and commands under the Crown. The importation, and elevation, of these strangers, and their own rapacity, insolence, and contemptuous invasions of liberty and rights, excited general hatred and opposition, which found vent in the War of 1233, (*see* "Wars"), as the issue of which,

Des Roches was deposed, 1234,—and ordered no more to meddle with public affairs.

The King's

QUARREL WITH THE BARONS, (leading to the "Barons' War"), had for its *general*

Origin.—1. *Henry's favoritism for foreigners*, especially the fellow-countrymen of his wife, large numbers of whom came over, after the marriage, (amongst them being three of her uncles, one of whom, Boniface, became Primate, and another, Henry's chief adviser.)

These interlopers had wealth, office, honor, and confidence, bestowed upon them, by Henry, at the expense of, and in preference to, the English.

2. *Henry's reckless prodigality, and consequent exactions*,—the latter consisting of heavy tallages on towns; presents (!) solicited from the nobility; extortions from the Jews; and grants from the Council, on false pretences,—(amongst which were a vow, pretended on his part, to join the Crusades,—and insincere confirmations of the Charter). The

Immediate cause of the outbreak was,—*Henry's acceptance*, 1254, from the Pope, (who had declared that kingdom forfeit), of *Sicily*, for his second son, Edmund,

and his authorizing the Pontiff to spend what might be necessary to conquer the country for the new possessor,—the result being a bill of expenses amounting to the vast sum of 135,341 marks, besides interest.

The Barons, (who had frequently, and vehemently, remonstrated with the King on his misconduct), were very indignant, on this demand's coming to light, since they had not been consulted as to the arrangement with the Pope. Amongst their number was a man of great ability, energy, determination, and ambition, named

Simon de Montfort, Earl of Leicester, (a younger son of the Simon de Montfort who conducted the Albigensian Crusade), who had married Eleanor, (the King's sister, and widow of the Earl of Pembroke); called together a secret meeting of the other malcontents, who, thereat, decided, with him as their leader, to effect a thorough reform in the government. Accordingly, Henry having summoned, with a view to obtaining a supply to meet the Pope's bill, a

Council, at Westminster, May 2, 1258,—the Barons, headed by Leicester, appeared in arms, and charged Henry with the injury done to the kingdom by his extravagance and folly. After a hot debate, it was mutually agreed to meet in

Council, (called—from “the confusions that attended its measures”—“the Mad Parliament”), at Oxford, June 11, 1258,—for the purpose of effecting needful reforms.

The King, coming forceless, found the Barons assembled, attended by vassals and men-at-arms, and, consequently, himself virtually a prisoner in their hands, and obliged to submit to their dictation, by which a supreme

Council of State, of 24 nobles, (12 nominated by the Barons, and 12 from the King's Council), with De Montfort at its head, was appointed to make the necessary reforms, the King pledging himself to abide thereby. The Council's decisions were embodied in the

“Provisions of Oxford,” (or, “Oxford Statutes”), 1258,—the following being the *main*

Articles.—1. Four Knights to be chosen by the freeholders of each county, to inquire into the wrongs done under Henry's government.

2. Parliament to meet thrice yearly—in February, June, and October.

3. New sheriffs to be elected annually, by the freeholders, for the various counties.

4. Sheriffs, the Treasurer, the Chancellor, and the Justiciary, to render their accounts annually.

5. Foreigners not to hold civil offices, or act as guardians to heirs, or command Royal fortresses.

The Barons were now, virtually, supreme in the State, and stood on the summit of popularity: their cause, however, speedily lost the favour of the nation, owing to their appropriating all the public offices for themselves and friends, their slowness to complete their promised reforms, and their passing measures, (*e.g.*, the limiting the itinerant circuits of the judges to once in seven years), which seemed intended to confer upon themselves sole and irresponsible power.

This turn of the tide was helped by the desertion to Henry's side of Leicester's great rival, Gloucester, which emboldened the King to reassert himself. Appearing unexpectedly before the Council, and upbraiding them for attending to their own rather than the country's interests,

Henry took upon himself the government, 1261,—possessed himself of the Tower,—and compelled London to swear fealty to him. Leicester took refuge in France.

Henry's ascendancy was, however, brief: Gloucester died, and his son returned to the side of the Barons, who speedily assembled under arms, and De Montfort returned, and headed them.

(“*Political, &c., Events,*” from this point till after the battle of Lewes, are narrated under the head of “*the Barons', (or, Civil, War.)*”)

After the battle of Lewes, all power was vested, nominally, in a

Council of 9,—but, really, in Leicester, Gloucester, and the Bishop of Chichester.

To strengthen his hands, De Montfort assembled a new

Parliament Jan. 20, 1265,—which is remarkable as “*the first meeting of the House of Commons,*” since, besides the usual elements, *there were summoned two Knights for each county, and two representatives of each borough.*

This Parliament (besides debating on what terms Princes Edward, and Henry, should be released), *enacted* that

1. Charters and ordinances should be observed.
2. Leicester should not be required to answer for his past conduct.
3. Should any of the Barons be aggrieved by the King, their vassals should be released from their oath of fealty.
4. Prince Edward should not quit the realm for three years, under pain of disinheritance.

After Evesham, and the consequent pacification of the country, under Henry's regained authority, the turbulent spirits were drawn out of the kingdom, to the Crusades, by Prince Edward, (who is said, by some, to have had this special end in view, in undertaking the enterprise).

Before his departure, the nation was put into good humor by a promise to London to restore its Charter.

STATUTE, (not elsewhere named).

The

Charter of Forests,—consisted of the clauses of Magna Charta referring to forests and warrens, thrown into a separate form : this was done at the revision of the Charter, in 1217. It was confirmed 1225.

Main Articles.—Capital punishment for slaying deer abolished, the offence to be, thenceforth, punished by the payment of "a grievous fine," or, in default, imprisonment for a year and a day : at the expiration of that time a pledge to be provided, or, in default, the offender to abjure the realm.

ECCLESIASTICAL, &c., AFFAIRS.

Primates.—Stephen Langton ; Richard ; Edmund ; Boniface.

The nation suffered greatly, under Henry, from the

Exactions of Rome.—The Pope exercised the system of "provisions," (i.e., nominations to livings during the lives of the incumbents), filling benefices with Italians to such an extent that their annual revenue amounted to 60,000 marks, and allowing pluralities and non-residence to a scandalous extent,—exactd the revenues of vacant benefices, $\frac{3}{8}$ of all ecclesiastical incomes whatsoever, $\frac{1}{4}$ of all exceeding 100 marks yearly, and $\frac{1}{4}$ of those of non-residents,—claimed the goods of all intestate clergy, and

all money gained by usury,—and levied “benevolence” on the nation at large.

This reign witnessed the

Introduction of the Mendicant Friars, (the four principal of which were the Dominicans, Franciscans, Carmelites, and Augustines),—the Dominicans coming first, and settling at Oxford, 1221. These new orders professed poverty, and begged their bread from door to door: they were also preachers, and independent of the bishops. Innocent sanctioned them, partly to check the luxury and vice of the regular clergy, and partly, (and mainly), to advance the claims of Rome, (which were now becoming antagonistic to the interests of the Church).

Being, in zeal, eloquence, and morality, strikingly superior to the regular clergy, the new orders rapidly gained popularity, and the older ones sank into odium and neglect: speedily, however, the former proved more luxurious and licentious than those whom they had supplanted, and in less than a century the cheat of these impostors was patent.

VARIOUS MATTERS.

The King's brother,

Richard, was induced by the German electoral princes, who were attracted to him by his immense wealth, to become a candidate for the Empire, and **was**, actually, chosen “**King of the Romans**,” 1256, whereby his succession to the Imperial throne seemed secured. He was, however, disappointed, and found that he had lavished all his fortune to win a barren title.

Leaden Water-pipes, and **Candles**, first came into use. A

License to dig Coal was first granted, to Newcastle.

SCOTCH AFFAIRS.

Alexander II. was allied with the Dauphin, in his invasion of England, under John, and was included in the peace which closed the war. He did homage to **Henry**, whose sister, **Joan**, he afterwards married, 1221.

A few years after, he demanded, as his right, the three northernmost counties, which claim **Henry** refused to

admit, declaring, on his part, that the homage formerly done by the Scotch monarchs was for Scotland. The dispute grew hot, and the English King assembled an army, at Newcastle, to enforce his view. Alexander, however, averted hostilities, by negotiation, and, in the end evaded the question, of which Henry made an unsuccessful effort to obtain a settlement on two subsequent occasions—viz., at the accession of **Alexander III.**, and when that monarch **married**, at York, 1251, **Henry's daughter, Margaret.**

WELSH AFFAIRS.

Llewellyn, the Prince of N. Wales, in the early portion of the reign, was brother-in-law of Henry, having married King John's illegitimate daughter, Jane.

In spite of this tie, hostilities continued between the two countries, the marchers making constant destructive and murderous incursions.

Henry invaded Wales several times, but bootlessly, since Llewellyn and his followers found safe shelter in the mountains.

This prince, dying, 1240, was succeeded by his grandsons,

Llewellyn, and David, who voluntarily became **vassals of Henry**, in spite of which, however, the marchers continued their forays, whereby the Border was reduced to a virtual desert.

Llewellyn joined De Montfort and the Barons, and a Welsh contingent fought on that side, at Lewes.

IRISH AFFAIRS.

Henry strove, in vain, to establish Magna Charta in the country.

During the reign, there was a severe

Contest between the Prince of Connaught, aided by **O'Neill of Tyrone**, and the **English power**, which rendered the wretched country still more miserable.

CONTEMPORARY SOVEREIGNS.

Scotland.		Germany.	
ALEXANDER II.		FREDERIC II.	Arragon.
ALEXANDER III.		CONRAD IV.	JAMES I.
		WILLIAM (of Hol-	Popes.
		land).	
		(Interregnum 1256-	HONORIUS III.
		1273.)	GREGORY IX.
France.			CELESTINE IV.
PHILIP (Augustus),			INNOCENT IV.
II.			ALEXANDER IV.
LOUIS VIII.		Spain.	URBAN IV.
LOUIS IX., ("Saint		Castile.	CLERMONT IV.
Louis.)		HENRY I.	GREGORY X.
PHILIP III.		FERDINAND III.	
		ALFONSO X.	

EDWARD I., ("Longshanks.")

Dates.—At Westminster, June 17, 1239: Nov. 20, (the day he was proclaimed—his coronation not taking place till Aug. 19, 1274, after his return from Palestine), 1272-1307, July 7, at Burgh-on-the-Sands, of dysentery.

Descent, &c.—Eldest son of Henry III., by Eleanor of Provence.

He was made, by his father, Duke of Guienne, 1252, his right, however, being disputed by Alfonso, of Castile, who asserted that the Duchy had been made over to his ancestors by Henry II. The quarrel was, eventually, arranged by Edward's marriage with Alfonso's sister.

Displaying early his great abilities, he was, while very young, allowed to take part in State affairs, ratifying an agreement between his father and the Pope when only 16, and signing the Provisions of Oxford.

He came home from Guienne, when Henry violated his engagement, expressed his indignation thereat, and, for a time, was in opposition to his father's government. Before long, however, he espoused the paternal cause.

(His share in "the Barons' War" is elsewhere narrated.)

The kingdom being quiet, the young Prince, moved by ambition for glory, and, perhaps, by a politic wish to find employment abroad for the turbulent spirits amongst the

Barons, yielded to the urgent solicitations of St. Louis, (Louis IX.), and, with the

Duke of Gloucester and a large army, set out, 1270, for the

8th., (and last), **Crusade**. Arriving at the camp of Louis, (who had started before him, and turned aside to attack the Moors, in Africa), at Tunis, he found that monarch dead, of the Plague. Nothing daunted, he proceeded to Palestine, where he arrived 1271. There, he *raised the siege of Acre, and captured Nazareth*, and performed prodigies of valour which recalled the deeds of Cœur de Lion. He, however, nearly lost his life, an assassin, when aiming a death-blow at him, stabbing him, with a poisoned dagger, in the arm, death being averted only by his devoted wife's care and attention, whence sprang the oft-repeated story of her sucking the poison from the wound.

Finding the effecting of any permanent result hopeless, Edward, (the last of the Crusading princes), quitted Palestine, and sailed for Italy, three months before his father's death.

(This was the end of the Crusades: Acre capitulated 1291, and, thenceforth, "the Holy Land was left to be trodden down by the Infidels.")

Claim.—*Good*,—being the eldest, and legitimate, son of Henry III., whose title was valid.

Married.—(1). *Eleanor*, (1244-90), daughter of Ferdinand III., of Castile, when she was but 10. After the marriage, she spent some years, apart from her boy-husband, finishing her education.

During the Barons' War, she resided in France, but joined Edward, in England, after Evesham, and accompanied him to the Crusades.

After their return to England, she was nearly always companion of the King on his journeys, being with him in his Welsh campaign, (when Edward II. was born), and following him on his being called to the North in 1290, but, while on the road, succumbed to fever, at Herdeby, (Lincolnshire).

Her body was carried, for burial, to Westminster, and, at every halting-place, (thirteen in number), a cross was, by directions in her will, erected, the last being at the (then) village of Charing, (whence, "*Charing Cross*"—

where stands a beautiful modern restoration of the monument).

Eleanor was beautiful, amiable, virtuous, and pious—in every way a fit helpmate for a King. She was greatly and universally beloved and regretted, winning the popular favor by, specially, her abstaining from patronizing her fellow-countrymen as the last Queen had so scandalously done.

(2). 1299, Margaret, (1279-1317), daughter of Philip III., of France.

Casting about for a wife suited to fill the blank made by the death of Eleanor, Edward's regard was, at first, directed to Margaret's sister, Blanche, the *belle* of the European Courts. There being, however, a prospect of her becoming Empress, her brother, Philip, craftily manœuvred to substitute for her her plainer sister, Edward's political necessities inducing him to agree to the change.

Most of Margaret's married life was passed in camp, tending her husband, (who was thrice her age): she employed her influence with him to curb his violent temper, and thus, and by her quiet, unpretentious, virtuous, mode of life, won, like her predecessor, the regard of the nation.

After Edward's death, she resided, chiefly, at Marlborough Castle, where she died.

Issue.—1. *By Eleanor.*—John, *d.* 1271; Henry, *d.* 1274; Alfonso, *d.* 1284; Edward II.; Eleanor, *m.* Henri, Duc de Bar; Joan, of Acre, (born in Palestine), *m.* (1), Gilbert de Clare, Earl of Gloucester and Hereford,—(2), Sir R. Monthermer; Margaret, *m.* John, Duc de Brabant; Mary, took the veil, at Amesbury; Elizabeth, *m.* (1), John, Count of Holland, (2), Humphrey de Bohun, Earl of Hereford; and 4 other daughters.

2. *By Margaret.*—Thomas, of Brotherton, Earl of Norfolk, and Earl Marshal, *d.* 1338; Edmund, of Woodstock, Earl of Kent, (beheaded, 1330, at Winchester); and a daughter.

Character.—Tall, well-formed (excepting his legs, which were too long and slender), and of majestic figure, noble aspect, and commanding presence; strong, active, and skilled in all manly and martial exercises; affable and gracious in manner and address.

A brave soldier, and model captain—keen, quick, decided, daring, and vigorous; cool, wary, and resourceful.

An able and accomplished politician—vigilant, penetrating, industrious, and wisely frugal: the wisest and greatest legislator amongst our monarchs, gaining the surname of “the English Justinian.”

Chargeable with wilfulness, violence, tyranny, (as shewn in his violations of Magna Charta, and his imprisoning of freemen), and exaction; and unjust ambition, (*in re* Scotland and Wales—but must be judged leniently in the last regard, since his *motives* may have been higher than is generally allowed): supposing him to have been actuated by a desire for the political unity of the Kingdom, (a truly beneficial purpose), and not by mere lust of conquest, his conduct does not merit the execration it has received.

WARS.

1. WITH WALES,—

2. WITH WALES,—See “Welsh Affairs.”

3. WITH FRANCE, 1294-1298.

Origin.—A quarrel, at a watering-place, near Bayonne, between an English, and a Norman, sailor, in which the latter was killed, 1293.

The dead man's mates, in revenge, boarded the first English vessel which they encountered, seized a merchant passenger, and hanged him mast-high, with a dog tied to his heels. This led to reprisals on the part of the English, and, gradually, a general *piratical sea warfare* came to be carried on between the two nations, without the authority of their rulers.

At length, the Cinque Ports' squadron, 80 strong, having destroyed a French fleet of 200 vessels, Philip, smarting at the disgraceful defeat, deemed it time to interfere, and seek redress. Accordingly, after some vain negotiations, he, in his capacity, (as Duke of Aquitaine), of feudal superior of Edward, (as ruler of Guienne), summoned the English monarch to appear before him.

Edward, wishing to avoid hostilities, complied so far as to send, as his representative, his brother Edmund, (husband to the mother of the French Queen), a weak-minded man, whom Philip easily induced, (alleging it to be a meet and proper salve to his wounded honor), to surrender to him Guienne, for forty days. At the expiration of the period, however, he refused to restore it, and formally

declared it forfeit to himself, in consequence of the King's non-appearance before him.

Thereupon, *Edward*, (who, to his chagrin, found himself ensnared in exactly the same manner as that in which he had caught the Scots), *sent to Philip a renunciation of fealty, and prepared for war.*

Events.—Edward allied himself with several Continental powers, and, having assembled a large force, was about to sail for Guienne, when an outbreak in Wales claimed his attention, whereupon he sent over the army, himself remaining at home. The result of the expedition was disastrous, for the

English, successful at first, were eventually *defeated* in all directions, *by the French.*

On his return from Wales, Edward again prepared to cross to the Continent, but was deterred by hearing of the treaty between Balliol and Philip, which decided him to first attack the former.

Affairs in Scotland and Wales being propitious therefor, in 1297, Edward, a third time, determined to embark in person for the French War, and, accordingly, prepared an army to send over to Guienne, while he himself should make a diversion on the side of Flanders, (whose Earl was his ally).

The command of the forces for Guienne was destined for the Earls of Hereford and Norfolk, who, however, (*as narrated under "Political Affairs"*), refused to go, and deserted Edward, who, thereupon, gave up the idea of an expedition to Guienne, and, with his army, crossed over to Flanders.

The undertaking, however, proved abortive, and Edward, in face of the heavy home demand for money and men, became convinced of the hopelessness of winning back the Duchy by arms. Just at this juncture, the Pope proposed a reconciliation, based upon two intermarriages—viz., those of Edward and Margaret, and of the Prince of Wales with Isabella, daughter of Philip IV.—which was agreed to, the two monarchs signing the

Treaty of Montrenil, 1298.

Main Articles.—1. Peace to be between the two countries, Edward abandoning his ally, the Earl of Flanders, and Philip his, the King of Scotland.

2. Edward to make satisfaction for the French ships destroyed early in the War.

3. Philip to place certain Gascon towns in the hands of the Pope, pending the settlement of the question as to Guienne.

This treaty was not ratified till 1303, when there was appended thereto a

Treaty of Commerce,—and Guienne was restored to England.

4. **WITH SCOTLAND**,—See "*Scotch Affairs*."

POLITICAL, &c., AFFAIRS.

Affairs during Edward's Absence 1272-1274.—

The young King being, at his father's death, in Palestine, the Council at once caused him to be proclaimed. The chief nobility swore allegiance to him readily, and the nation generally quietly accepted the new rule—thanks, mainly, to the firm and prompt action of Giffard, Archbishop of York; the Earl of Cornwall, (son of the late King of the Romans); and the Earl of Gloucester, the guardians of the realm.

Edward had reached Sicily, on his homeward way, when he heard of his father's death, and of the peaceful state of the kingdom, which last news induced him to determine upon remaining abroad for awhile, to attend to certain minor affairs. From Italy, he went to Paris, and there did homage to Philip for the lands he held in France. Thence, he repaired to Guienne, then very unsettled, and reduced it to quiet and order.

He was, at this juncture, challenged, by the Count of Chalons, to a tournament, and, spite of the remonstrance of the Pope, who suspected intended foul play, presented himself, on the day named, and entered the lists. The Pope's surmise proved correct—the Count endeavouring to unhorse Edward unfairly, being, however, himself thrown, and compelled to crave quarter, which was granted. Meanwhile, the tournament had become a deadly fight, known as the

Little War of Chalons, 1274,—which ended in the English archers clearing the course, and taking many of the French knights prisoners.

Edward next proceeded to Flanders, whose Countess, to

cover pay due to the Flemings for military services, had seized all the English wool in the country, and suspended all commercial intercourse. He obtained a full apology, and the matters in dispute were satisfactorily arranged.

Having, thus, finished his business, the young King crossed to Dover, Aug. 1274, and hastened to London, everywhere enthusiastically welcomed, his coronation speedily following, in presence of Alexander, of Scotland; John, Count of Brittany; and the English nobility, to whom Edward promised that he would abide by the Charter.

EVENTS AFTER EDWARD'S SUCCESSION.—The new King's first care was to rectify existing irregularities and abuses in the government. To this end, he summoned a

Parliament, Feb., 1275,—with whose help he, specially, enquired into the state of crime, and the administration of the laws by the Judges, displacing those whom he found unworthy or unfit, and conferring upon the Bench full power to root out bands of robbers, and to put down those more-difficult-to-be-dealt-with robberies committed by the nobles, or under shelter of public authority.

As a result of his examination of the question of the administration of the laws, Edward caused to be passed the

"Statute of Gloucester," 1278,—under which, commissions were issued to enquire into encroachments on the Royal demesne,—into the value of wardships, escheats, and forfeitures,—and into the best means of augmenting the Revenue.

The commissioners under this statute carried their enquiries into the validity of titles to estates to an offensive length, and Earl Warrenne, (who had done eminent service during the last reign), being subjected to this treatment, drew his sword, and declared that his ancestor was a fellow adventurer with William, and had equal right with that monarch to his share of the land,—and that it was his intention to maintain his title to what had remained in his family, unquestioned, since the Conquest. Edward saw the danger, and wisely stayed these annoying investigations.

After the settlement of Wales, Edward went abroad, 1286, as peacemaker between Alfonso, of Arragon, and

Philip, ("the Fair"), having plenipotentiary powers from both: he succeeded in his mission.

Returning, at the end of three years, he found that many abuses had sprung up in his absence, from the mal-administration of the laws. Accordingly, he summoned a

Parliament, 1289,—and brought the *Judges* to trial, at which, all of them but two, (who were clergymen), were found "guilty," fined, and *deposed*.

The King's exactions led to a serious

QUARREL WITH THE BARONS, 1297,—on occasion of a projected expedition to Guienne.

Edward, to raise the large sums needed for the enterprise, had laid a very heavy impost on the export of wool, and had compelled the clergy, (who, however, made a stout struggle against the levy), to give him one-fifth of their moveables. The nobles, however, headed by Humphrey Bohun, Earl of Hereford, the Constable, and Roger Bigod, Earl of Norfolk, the Marshal, resisted his demands, and determined to bring him to book, for his illegal exactions, and obtain security against such, for the future.

Accordingly, when Edward had assembled his army on the coast, ready to start, Bohun, and Bigod, being ordered to take the command, refused, declaring that their duty extended to only attending him in his wars. A sharp dispute followed, and the King, in his rage, cried to Bohun, "You shall either go, or hang, Sir Earl"! to which, Hereford replied, "Sir King! I will neither go nor hang," and, therewith, took his departure homewards, accompanied by Bigod, thirty other of the principal barons, and 1,500 knights. Edward, however, did not stay his departure, crossing over to Flanders.

Taking advantage of his absence, the Constable, the Marshal, and other nobles of their party, determined to obtain from him their own terms. Being summoned to Parliament, they came largely attended by men-at-arms, and insisted upon having the gates of London placed in their custody, before they would enter the city.

They, then, took their places in the House, and proceeded to make their

Demands, (whose beneficial aim, and moderation, sufficiently attest their integrity, and patriotism), which were that

1. The Great Charter, and the Charter of Forests, should be solemnly confirmed.

2. A clause should be added securing the nation against taxation without consent of Parliament.

3. Those who had refused to accompany Edward into Flanders should be pardoned, and received into favor.

The Prince of Wales, and the Council, agreeing thereto, the terms were sent over to Flanders, for Edward to confirm, which he, at last, with a severe effort, consented to do, and, accordingly, set his seal to a

Confirmation of Magna Charta and the Forest Laws, 1297.

In this celebrated "*Confirmatio Chartarum*," the clause respecting the levying of taxes arbitrarily was introduced. To the separate copy of this clause, was given the title of

"*De Tallagio non Concedendo*,"—whence many have, incorrectly, represented it as a separate statute.

Main Articles.—

1. The King to exact "no aids, tacks, nor prises," but such as Parliament should grant. (Hereby, the great principle of Parliamentary taxation was explicitly acknowledged, and "the same security" given "to private property which Magna Charta had given to personal liberty.")

2. No *maletoute*, (a tax on sacks of wool), to be taken.

3. No officer of the King to exact purveyance without consent of the owner of the goods.

Edward, subsequently, endeavored to evade performing, and procured from Rome absolution from, his oath and engagements, but found this policy unwise, and, so, shortly after, consented to *another*

Confirmation of the Charter,—which may be regarded as, now, finally established, and settled.

STATUTES, (not elsewhere mentioned).

Two, of great importance, relating to land, were passed :—

"*De Donis, 1285*,"—enabling the nobility to entail their real property.

"*Quia Emptores*," 1290,—doing away with sub-infeudation in connection with land. There was, also, enacted a police measure, called the

"Statute of Winchester," 1285,—to put down the very prevalent murders, robberies, &c.

Articles.—1. Penalties to be paid by districts where offences were committed.

2. Gates of walled towns to be shut all day.

3. The "Hue and cry" to be raised after criminals.

4. Highways to be cleared, for 200 yards on each side, to prevent robbers harbouring.

5. All to have suitable arms—for pursuing criminals.

ECCLESIASTICAL, &c., AFFAIRS.

Primates.—Boniface ; Robert Kilwardy ; John Peckham ; Robert Winchelsea.

The granting of lands to the Church, and to ecclesiastical corporations, generally, had long been seen to be a great abuse, since lands left to these bodies were not liable to the feudal incidents, and, consequently, the taxation fell more heavily on the rest of the community, while feudal services for the defence of the country were withdrawn, and the circulation of landed property between man and man stagnated. This state of things had become so bad that, under Henry III., there had been passed a statute declaring it unlawful to give land to a religious house and take it back in fee. But this touched only the hem of the garment of corporations generally, and was, moreover, cunningly evaded, so that Edward, on enquiring into the matter, found reform urgently demanded. Accordingly, he caused to be passed the celebrated

Statute of Mortmain—so called because property held by corporations was inalienable, and, so, in *dead hands*—(or "**De Religioses**"),—1279, whereby, (after a preamble, wherein it was set forth that religious men had been forbidden to enter upon fees, and that they had, nevertheless, so entered, and thereby the services provided for the defence of the Realm were unduly withdrawn), *it was forbidden to religious persons, or any other, by any means, art, or contrivance, to appropriate lands or tenements so that they come into mortmain in any way, under penalty of fine, and forfeiture of the same.*

Even this explicit statute, however, was continually evaded, and it was thereafter necessary to pass other

strong laws, on the same subject, before the desired end was secured.

A further check was placed on ecclesiastics by a **Statute, 1307,—forbidding**

1. The practice of carrying part of the monastic revenues, (meant for the poor, &c.), out of the country.

2. The bringing into the Kingdom any "provision," or other Papal document, which might, in any way, be inconsistent with the prerogatives of the Crown.

It is generally stated that this reign saw the

Establishment of Convocation,—some making it first assemble in 1295, for the purpose of obtaining a supply of money from the clergy, for the King, through their representatives,—and others, in 1297, for the purpose of choosing two of the clergy to attend the national synod, in order to consult respecting the redress of grievances, &c.

Convocation, (or, the Clerical Parliament), consists of two houses, (that in the province of York of one), in the Upper of which sit the prelates,—in the Lower, the deans, archdeacons, and proctors, representing the Cathedral and working clergy.

It is summoned, simultaneously with Parliament, by the Royal writ. Formerly, it was very powerful, but is now only a debating society, without an atom of authority to decree, or enforce.

The heavily-taxed

Clergy were outlawed, 1297,—because they resisted a fresh demand, by Edward, who seized their property, which they recovered only by payment of a large sum.

VARIOUS MATTERS.

The Jews were banished from England, 1290.—They had met with severe treatment, previously, at the hands of Edward: he had, at his accession, forbidden them to lend on usury,—allowed, 1287, about 300 of them to be hanged, in London, on the charge of clipping the coin, (the fact of the tampered-with money being in their possession being taken as sufficient evidence against them),—and, 1287, cast them, on some pretence, into prison, detaining them there till they paid £12,000. He had, also, made an attempt to convert them by force, ordering the

Royal bailiffs to compel the attendance at the friars' lectures, the result, however, proving *nil*.

They were, finally, expelled, by Royal edict, giving them two months' notice. The number thus banished was over 16,000. The King provided them with passes, and allowed them to take with them their money and moveables, which proving too strong a temptation, in some cases, to the sailors, numbers of the emigrants were murdered, for their possessions: the assassins were, however, executed, by Edward's orders.

This banishment, (the credit of which has been freely bestowed on the King-mother, Eleanor), lasted until the time of the Commonwealth, when the Jews, of their own accord, gradually returned, and were tacitly allowed to remain.

WELSH AFFAIRS.

Wales soon became involved in

WAR WITH ENGLAND, 1277.

Origin.—*Llewellyn's refusing to do homage to Edward.*

The Welsh Prince had been summoned to England, for this purpose, at Edward's accession, and repeatedly afterwards; but, dreading the Royal resentment, for the support he had given to De Montfort, he constantly refused, meanwhile maintaining friendly relations with the members of Leicester's party, and contracting marriage with that nobleman's daughter, Elinor, who, however, was, while on her way to him from France, seized, 1275, near the Scilly Isles, taken to England, and there, by the King's orders, detained.

At this juncture, a fresh summons reached Llewellyn, and he consented to appear, and swear fealty, if Edward would give him hostages for his safe return to Wales, and restore to him his bride. The King consented to the former, but refused the latter, demand, whereupon, Llewellyn again refused to go.

The English Parliament, upon this, pronounced against him a sentence of forfeiture, to carry out which, Edward assembled an invading army.

Events.—In 1277, Edward, supported by the advice, presence, and powerful interest, of David, and Roderic, the Prince's brothers, (whom Llewellyn had dispossessed of their inheritance), and of Rees ap Meredith, representative

of the princes of South Wales, while Llewellyn obtained the alliance of France, advanced cautiously into the country, took

Flint and Rhuddlan Castles,—seized

Anglesea,—and, cooping him up amongst the mountains near Snowdon, compelled

Llewellyn, by famine, to *surrender*, at discretion, and to submit to a humiliating

Treaty, 1277.

Articles.—The Welsh Prince to

1. Pay Edward £50,000, (or, marks).
2. Cede four hundreds, between Chester and Conway.
3. Hold Anglesea in fee.
4. Do homage to Edward,

who, graciously, remitted the money, and, on Llewellyn's returning with him, and doing homage at Westminster, gave up Elinor to her husband, who, then, returned home.

David received, as his reward, knighthood, large estates, and an English Earl's daughter for wife.

Ere the lapse of many years, there was a renewal of the **WAR WITH ENGLAND, 1282-83.**

Origin.—General indignation at the *insolence and encroachments of Edward's officers*, and discontent, in the districts ceded by treaty, at the *introduction* therein of *English law*.

Events.—The Welsh, thus roused, broke out into rebellion, and flocked to the standard of Llewellyn, (who was joined by David, penitent for his treachery, and exasperated by his timber being felled, by the English, to make a road through a forest), or swarmed in the marches, to harry and slaughter.

Hawarden Castle was *surprised, by David, 1282*, and **Flint, and Rhuddlan, Castles,** were *invested, by Llewellyn and David, united.*

Edward, sending a fleet to Anglesea, set up his standard at Worcester, and thence, sent an offer of terms, which being refused, he marched into North Wales, while, at the same time, a strong body of English assembled at Carmarthen, learning which,

Llewellyn hastened South. At Builth, he was, while unarmed, and on his way to join his forces, encountered,

and challenged, by Adam Frankton, an English knight, to whom he was unknown, and, accepting, was **slain**, Dec. 11, 1282, his head, upon his corpse being recognized, being cut off, and sent to the King, (who had it forwarded to London, and hung, garlanded, on the Tower). The same day, the Welsh army was brought to *battle*, on the

Banks of the Wye.—*English victorious.*

E. com.—Edmund Mortimer.

From the moment of Llewellyn's death, may be reckoned the

Conquest of Wales, 1282,—for, though his brother succeeded, nominally, to the Principality, the chiefs at once made their submission, and

David, failing in an attempt to renew the contest, was hunted down by his countrymen, and, within six months, run to earth, and sent, prisoner, to Rhuddlan. Shortly after, there was held, to try him, an English

Parliament, of Acton Burnell, (Shrewsbury), 1283, which condemned him "to be drawn to the gallows as a traitor to the King, who had made him a Knight,—to be hanged, as a murderer of a gentleman at Hawarden,—to have his bowels burnt, because he had profaned, by assassination, the mystery of Christ's passion,—and to have his quarters distributed through the country, because he had, in different places, compassed the death of the King."

David was executed, 1283, in strict accordance with this sentence, (which was, thenceforth, the model in the capital punishment of traitors, till the reign of George III.)

Edward, now, spent nearly a year in measures for securing his conquest,—repairing old, and building new, castles,—expelling the Welsh from many towns, and replacing them by English,—making the English law obligatory in criminal cases, and dividing all Wales not under the rule of the marches into counties and hundreds, with sheriffs, &c.

Wales was formally annexed to England, by the "Statute of Wales," enacted at Rhuddlan, 1284. In *the same year*,

Prince Edward was born, at Caernarvon Castle, and invested, by his father, with the title of "**Prince of Wales**," (the story running that the King asked the Welsh if they would acknowledge, as their ruler, a prince who could not speak a word of English,—that they cordially assented,—and that, then, he produced to them the new-born Prince. Tradition has it, also, that Edward caused all the bards, in whom he recognized the real strength of the opposition to himself, to be assembled, at Conway, and massacred. This is, however, now, generally regarded as fiction).

SCOTCH AFFAIRS,

in this reign, are of great interest and importance, commencing with the

Dispute for the Crown,—of which the

Origin,—was the death of Margaret, "*Maid of Norway*," daughter of Eric, King of Norway, and of Margaret, daughter of Alexander III., 1290.—Alexander III. dying, of a fall, 1286, his little grand-daughter, then only three, was left his heiress, and accepted as Queen of Scotland, six regents being appointed to manage affairs, during her minority.

Edward, seeing presented a fine opportunity for uniting the two countries, proposed a marriage between his eldest son, and Margaret, to which the regents agreed. She died, however, at the Orkneys, on her way to Scotland, and left the succession unsettled.

Thirteen competitors, in all, speedily rose up, and asserted their claim ; of these only three, however, could pretend to any serious title, viz. :—

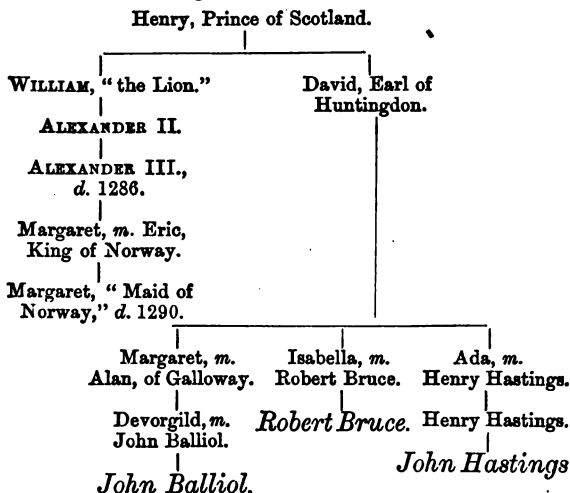
1. **John Balliol**, Lord of Galloway, *grandson of Margaret, eldest daughter of David*, of Huntingdon, brother of William, "the Lion."

2. **Robert Bruce**, Lord of Annandale, *son of Isabel, second daughter of David*.

3. **Hastings**, Lord of Abergavenny, *grandson of Ada, third daughter of David*.

A clear view of this question of succession is presented in the following

Table illustrating the Dispute for the Scotch Crown.



The claim of Hastings was so manifestly feeble that he offered to accept $\frac{1}{3}$ of the Kingdom, which proposition was negatived, on the ground that the inheritance was not divisible.

The contest lay, really, between Balliol, and Bruce, the question between them turning on a point of law, then, not clearly defined,—*viz.*, whether primogeniture, (by which Balliol claimed), or nearness of descent from the original stem, (on which Bruce based his title), constituted the better claim.

The contest was bitter, and threatened to end in civil war, to avert which, and to settle the dispute, the Bishop of St. Andrews, and, perhaps, (for the point is much debated), the Scotch Parliament, solicited the good offices of

Edward I., as **Umpire** between the competitors.—The English King, seeing herein, no doubt, the means of eventually annexing Scotland, jumped at the idea, and, at once, ordered his barons, and the nobles and Commons of Scot-

land, with the competitors, (his summons to the two latter being worded with studied ambiguity), to attend a

Meeting, at Norham Castle, on the Tweed, May-June, 1291,—at which, coming with a large army, *Edward claimed to decide the dispute in his alleged right, as feudal lord of Scotland*, and demanded letters-patent, acknowledging him as such.

The Scots, stunned with the demand, were silent, whereupon the King, to make their decision appear unfettered, told them to retire, consult, and come to a decision.

Though full of indignation at the conduct of Edward, they found themselves powerless to resist him, and, accordingly, offered no opposition to his proposal.

Edward, accepting this as a consent, now summoned the competitors to a

Meeting, at Berwick,—and demanded of them the acknowledgment of his feudal sovereignty, which they, (nine of them assembling), readily gave him, whereupon he first reduced the claimants to two—Balliol, and Bruce—and, then, ordered the appointment of 80 Scotch

Commissioners,—40 for Balliol, and 40 for Bruce, and added 24 Englishmen—to examine the question, and report the result to him, he engaging to give his award during the following year. In the interim, he, by consent of the competitors, held the national fortresses.

The Commissioners, (as well as the most learned lawyers of Europe, to whom the King referred the question), gave their decision in favor of the principle of *primogeniture*, and, accordingly,

Edward pronounced sentence, in Balliol's favor, Nov. 1292.

The latter, then, *did homage to Edward*, as his feudal lord, "for himself and his heirs, and the whole kingdom of Scotland,"—received back the national fortresses,—and assumed the Crown.

Balliol's Reign, 1292-96,—was short, and troubled.

Edward, (with, it is generally agreed, the design of goading Balliol into rebellion against him, and, thereby, giving him an excuse for seizing upon the coveted sovereignty of Scotland), almost immediately upon the new monarch's accession, commenced a course of citations to him to appear in London, and answer before his liege-lord appeals made by his subjects against his decisions, no less than six of these summonses reaching him within a year.

This treatment, sufficiently galling, was aggravated by the unjust, harsh, cavalier, manner in which these appeals were heard, he being refused a procurator, and required to appear as a private person, while in one case he was sentenced to pay damages.

Balliol was weak-minded, (probably, one of Edward's main reasons for preferring him to the other claimants), and gentle, but was roused to such indignation at this persistent course of insult, that he determined to assert his freedom.

He found the nobles nothing loath, and the juncture, (in consequence of Edward's being entangled with France), favorable. The first step in revolt was the conclusion of an

Alliance, offensive and defensive, between France and Scotland, 1295, (to be cemented by the marriage of Balliol's son to the French King's niece),—this being the commencement of that intimate connection which existed between the two countries during so many centuries.

Upon hearing of this treaty, Edward, thinking the contest with Philip of minor importance to the reduction of Scotland, hastened North, with his army. Meanwhile, he sent before him a messenger ordering the attendance of Balliol before him, at Newcastle, which command, the Scotch monarch refused, and, thus, rendered inevitable

WAR WITH ENGLAND, 1296,—its

Origin,—being, simply, *Balliol's revolt*, (as just narrated).

Events.—"First blood" was drawn in consequence of a love affair of De Ros, Lord of Werk. Edward, seizing upon this as a sufficient pretext, hastened to form the *siege of*

Berwick.—English victorious.

E. com.—Edward I.

S. "—Sir W. Douglas.

The town was *taken by storm*, **Mar. 30**, the enemy's loss being 7,000.

An English force now pushed on, and encountered the Scots in *battle*, at

Dunbar, Ap. 27.—E. completely victorious.

E. com.—John de Warrenne, Earl of Surrey.

S. coms.—Earls of Buchan, Lennox, and Mar.

The enemy's loss is estimated, variously, at from 10,000 to 20,000!

The whole country now speedily submitted,—

Balliol resigned his Crown, and signed an instrument of renunciation,—and the Scotch barons swore fealty to Edward, who, then, returned to England, leaving

De Warrenne Guardian, and Governor, of Scotland; with the chief castles in the Lowlands in English occupation, and taking with him the Scotch *regalia*, and the celebrated stone on which the monarchs sat, as a coronation chair, at Scone, and leading in his train the unfortunate Balliol, who was, on reaching London, thrown into the Tower, (where he remained for two years, at the end of which, on the Pope's intercession, he was released, and voluntarily retired, on parole, to France, where he died, 1314).

Scotland seemed, now, completely pacified, but there broke out, very speedily, the stern

WAR OF INDEPENDENCE, 1297-1304: renewed, 1306-1323.

Origin.—*The rising of Sir William Wallace*, a Scotch knight, of an ancient family in the West, of immense stature and strength, of leonine courage, and a noble mind and lofty virtue—a rare model of a patriot. Having slain an English officer, whose insolence had provoked him, he became an outlaw, and, speedily, assembled a large force of fugitives from justice or oppression, and men of broken fortune, into whom he succeeded in infusing his own daring and ardor.

At first, he, living with his followers, in the woods, engaged in small enterprises against the English, but, encouraged by his success, at length came boldly forward as the champion of Scotch liberty.

Other leaders, (amongst them Bruce), followed his example, and, soon, the national cause seemed to give some hope of success.

Events.—The exploits of Wallace, and the other chiefs, (who spared none of the enemy that fell into their hands), determined the Governor to march the army of the North into Scotland.

Upon its appearance, *most of the leaders*, whom jealousies, unfortunately, prevented from combining, *capitulated*.

Wallace, however, retiring with his force, *determined upon attacking Ormesby*, the Justiciary, a violent tyrant, to whom De Warrenne had entrusted the government, at Scone.

Ormesby, forewarned, *fled* in haste, and barely escaped, leaving, however, *his treasure to Wallace*. Many other of the English officers followed the Justiciary's example, and sought safety in flight.

Edward, learning of Wallace's outbreak just as he was starting for Guienne, held to his purpose, and embarked for the Continent; while the Governor of Scotland, collecting a large army, prepared to crush the uprising. Marching to Stirling, he found his great antagonist on the other side of the Forth, prepared to give *battle*, at

Cambuskenneth, (near Stirling), Sept. 10, 1297.—*Scots completely victorious.*

S. com.—Wallace.

E. „ —De Warrenne.

Surrey determined on crossing, and attacking Wallace, who, however, fell upon him, when only 5,000 of his troops were over the narrow bridge, and inflicted upon him a most terrible defeat, at least half of the English being slain, among these being Cressingham, the Treasurer, who was so utterly detested by them that the Scots flayed him, and made saddles and girths of his skin.

Warrenne now hastened across the Border, in panic.

Wallace, during the winter, *made an*

Incursion into England,—wasting the North, with fire and sword, as far as Durham, and returned richly spoil-, and glory-, laden.

Edward, having concluded terms with France, returned, next year, to find his strong arm needed in Scotland. Assembling as large an army as possible, from England, Wales, and Ireland, he advanced into Scotland, with over 80,000 men. He found the country almost clear, till he reached, and encountered the enemy in *battle* at,

Falkirk, July 22, 1298.—*English completely victorious.*

E. com.—Edward I.

S. „ —Wallace.

The Scots were posted behind a morass, with their pike-men drawn up in circular bodies—both which circumstances were greatly against the enemy, who, however,

eventually overcame the difficulty of the swamp,—made openings, by means of their archers, in the pike-bands,—and, finally, defeated the Scots so thoroughly, that their loss exceeded 30,000. This was *one of the most disastrous battles the Scots have ever fought.*

Wallace escaped, and again retired to the “greenwood.”

This victory, seemingly a death-blow to Scotch freedom, turned out almost resultless, the English, after reducing the South, being compelled to retire across the Border, from want of provisions, leaving the whole of the north of the island independent, under Bruce, and Comyn, his nephew, under whom, especially, (Wallace’s influence having departed), the war continued to be carried on, feebly, however, until 1303, when the

Scotch took the field with vigor, and, marching South, *compelled the English to give up*

Stirling Castle.—They, then, encountered the enemy *in battle at*

Roslin, (Edinburghshire), **Feb. 24, 1303.**—*Scots victorious.*

S. coms.—Comyn; Simon Fraser, (“a gallant knight”).

E. com.—John de Segrave, (the Guardian).

The English retired, leaving the enemy in possession of the field.

Shortly after, Edward concluded peace with France, and once again turned his attention to Scotland, assembling a large army and fleet, for a thoroughly systematic

Invasion of Scotland, 1303,—which perfectly succeeded, he marching unopposed, (the fleet keeping pace at the side of the army and supplying its needs), from one end of Scotland to the other,—ravaging the open, reducing the castles, and compelling the nobles, including Bruce, and Comyn, to swear fealty to him.

Wallace hung on his march, but found few and small chances of distinguishing himself. The only successful resistance made to the invader was in the *siege of*

Stirling Castle.—*English victorious.*

E. com.—Edward I.

S. ” —Sir W. Oliphant.

The Castle had held out several months, when Edward undertook its reduction : it *surrendered July 20.*

The country was now reduced, but Edward did not feel safe as long as

Wallace remained at large. Accordingly, he diligently sought to find his retreat, and, finally, by the treachery of a false friend, Sir John Monteith, "the lion of Scotland" was **betrayed** into the hands of the King, who, with a cruelty, and a meanness of soul, little to be expected from him, had him carried, in chains, to London,—tried as a traitor and rebel, (though he had never sworn fealty to England),—**and executed**, with the usual barbarities of drawing and quartering, at Smithfield, 1305.

Scotland was now regarded as, and appeared to be, a **completely conquered country**. Soon, however, it saw the

WAR OF INDEPENDENCE RENEWED, 1306 - 1323,—having, as its

Origin,—the *determination of Robert Bruce*, (grandson of the competitor of that name), *to free his country, and mount its throne.*

This young noble, who had been living at the English Court, high in the Royal favor, having resolved to attempt the enterprise, took into his confidence, and received promise of support from, Comyn, who, however, played the traitor, by revealing the matter to the King, whereupon, Bruce, gaining an inkling of the treachery, fled to Scotland, 1305.

Early next year, at an

Assembly, at Dumfries, of Scotch nobles,—he called upon his peers to rise, on behalf of their country.

The powerful **Comyn** opposed, but was removed, from his path, by Bruce, who, meeting him in the cloisters of the Grey Friars, **stabbed** him, Sir Thomas Kirkpatrick running in afterwards, and making sure of his death Feb. 1306.

This deed roused the nation, and Scotland was soon, again, in arms.

Events.—**Bruce** was solemnly crowned, in March, after which he took the field, and speedily **drove the English out of every part of Scotland** but those fortresses which they held.

Edward, to check the progress of the enemy, sent North a large invading force, which engaged the Scots in battle, at

Methven, (Perth), June 19, 1306.—English victorious.

E. com.—Aymer de Valence, (Earl of Pembroke).

S. „ —Robert Bruce, who, attacked unexpectedly, was, in spite of heroic struggle, utterly defeated, and compelled to refuge in Rathlin, in the Western Isles.

Edward, now, visited Scotland, and dealt out severe measures, ordering all who had aided, or abetted, Comyn's murderers, and all taken with arms in hand, to be executed : he, also, sent Bruce's wife, daughter, and sisters, prisoners, to England.

In the succeeding spring, the Scotch king emerged from his retreat, and, taking the field, met Pembroke in battle, at

London Hill, (Ayr), May 10, 1307.—English victorious.

E. com.—Aymer de Valence.

S. „ —Robert Bruce.

Edward, boiling over with rage at this new rising, again took the field, with a great army, and advanced Borderwards, by way of Carlisle, dying, however, on the way, but with his last breath, compelling his son to swear to continue the war until Scotland should be completely reduced, and ordering that his remains should be carried before the army.

IRISH AFFAIRS.

The Barons within the Pale, (*i.e.*, that part of the Island—the S.E.—wherein the English settlers dwelt), held the

First English Parliament, 1295.

Descent, &c.—Fourth son of Edward I., and Eleanor, became heir soon after his birth, by the death of his only-surviving elder brother,—in 1297, by Royal command, received the oath of fealty, and was appointed Regent, on occasion of his father's visiting Flanders,—commanded a division, in the Scotch wars, committing therein, it is said, in one instance, such cruelty as to draw forth the paternal rebuke,—in 1306, made Duke of Guienne.

Claim.—*Good*,—as nearest lineal heir of Edward I., who was rightful sovereign.

Married,—(1308), Isabella, (1295-1357), daughter of Philip IV., of France,—contracted to Edward when only 4,—sent for, by him, as soon as he mounted the Throne, and, impatient of ensuing delay, sailed to Boulogne, where the union took place,—neglected from the first, by Edward, for his favorite, Gaveston, being kept without money, and so generally ill-used that she declares herself, in a letter to her father, “the most wretched of wives,”—gradually, as she grew older, acquired more consideration and influence, being sufficiently powerful to reconcile Edward and his Barons, 1313,—six years later, on another outbreak, sided with the Opposition. (Her history, from her crossing to France to the death of her husband, is narrated elsewhere, and must be supplied, in sketching her life.)

Edward III., upon assuming the sovereignty, shut her up, with a (reduced) dower of £3,000 annually, at Castle Rising, (Norfolk), where he paid her a visit of ceremony yearly : her confinement lasted 27 years.

“Since the days of the fair and false Elfrida, of Saxon celebrity, no queen of England has left so dark a stain on the annals of female royalty as the consort of Edward II.”

Issue.—Edward III.; John, (of Eltham), Earl of Cornwall, (*d.* 1334); Eleanor, (*d.* 1355), *m.* Duke of Gueldres; Joan, (*d.* 1357), *m.* David II., (son of Robert Bruce), King of Scotland.

Character.—In form, countenance, and manner, like his father.

Without valor, or military ability : as a ruler, weak ; in-different to his country's welfare, and placing the government in the hands of worthless favorites ; and aiming to set himself above the Constitution. Not so tyrannical, only because not so able and bold, as his father.

Essentially, and degradedly, sensual ; cruel ; irresolute, fickle, and faithless.

A very indifferent husband.

Some have regarded Edward as a man "innocent and inoffensive," (*Hume*), the troubles of whose reign were owing to the "seditious grandes" and the "impatient populace," who took advantage of Edward's weakness to throw on him all the blame. This view, however, is not just. Edward *was* very weak ; but he was not only this, —he was an *actively* bad, an *offensive*, monarch.

Edward was in London, when his father died. Upon hearing of it, he hastened to Carlisle, where he received homage from the English.

Having, then, abandoned the war with Scotland, and appointed De Valence Guardian of that country, he hurried back, to prepare for his coronation, and marriage.

WARS,

WITH SCOTLAND,—see "Scotch Affairs."

INSURRECTIONS.

1. OF THE BARONS, 1312; with preceding QUARRELS, 1308; 1310 - 12.

Cause.—Edward's infatuated *favoritism towards*

Piers de Gaveston, son of a Gascon knight, who had faithfully served the late king, and had been rewarded by his son's being chosen as companion of young Edward, in which position, however, the former had acquired such a dangerously complete ascendancy over the weak Prince, that the latter's father, shortly before his death, acting for the country's welfare, banished the favorite, and exacted from the heir-apparent a promise that he would not recall him.

No sooner, however, was his father dead, than Edward fetched, from abroad, his cherished minion, (the secret of whose influence lay in his agreeable society and in his skill and resource in providing continual pleasures and amusements), made him Earl of Cornwall, and bestowed on him estates fit for a prince ; gave him his niece, sister of the Earl of Gloucester, for wife ; and when, absent in France, fetching Isabella, left him Regent, with unusual powers.

Gaveston, though brave and able, unwisely, but natu-

rally, presumed upon his favored condition, and treated the English barons with haughty insolence, and contempt, and amused himself by applying sarcastic nicknames to even the highest of them, (*e.g.*, Thomas, of Lancaster; Pembroke; and Warwick; whom, respectively, he called "Old Hog;" "Joseph, the Jew;" and, "Black Dog of the Wood").

The nobles were infuriated, by this treatment, and, the climax of insult being reached when they saw him installed in the place of honor, at the Coronation, they, three days after that event, headed by Lancaster, demanded of Edward the favorite's banishment, with a general reform of abuses.

These demands being repeated, on Parliament's assembling, the King gave way, and

Gaveston was, nominally, banished, 1308,—Edward, however, really converting the sentence into a mark of favor and honor, by sending him away to Ireland, with the position of Lord-Lieutenant, greatly to the chagrin and rage of the Barons.

Having, however, consented, at a

Parliament, at Stamford, to redress various grievances, (and having, previously, privately gained over many of the nobles), it was **allowed the King to recall Gaveston, 1309.**

Edward now gave the wildest scope to his extravagant fondness for Piers, and the latter displayed greater arrogance and insolence than ever.

He, and his master, having, by their extravagance, emptied the Treasury, the latter, perforce, summoned Parliament to meet, at York: the Barons, however, refused to appear, alleging that they feared danger, from their enemy Gaveston,—whereupon Edward, persuading him to retire, for the nonce, summoned another

Parliament, at Westminster, 1310,—whither the nobles came, armed, with large retinues, and, having him at their mercy, compelled the King to consent to the appointment of a committee, to draw up ordinances for governing the kingdom, and regulating the Royal household. The functions of this body, who were termed

"Ordainers," (1310-11), were decreed to last till the Michaelmas of 1311; by that time, they had drawn up,

for Edward to sign, an instrument, of which the following are the

Main Ordinances.—1. Magna Charta, and all statutes thereto conformable, to be observed.

2. The King not to leave the kingdom, or make war, or appoint great Crown officers, without the consent of his baronage, in Parliament.

3. All unlawful purveyance, and illegal imposts, to cease, and certain new taxes on wool, cloth, wine, and some other articles, to be abolished.

4. The Sheriffs to be of sufficient property.

5. Parliaments to be at least yearly, if not biennial.

6. Gaveston to be banished, in perpetuity, from England, and English territory, and all evil counsellors removed from the Court.

Edward signed, and Gaveston refuged in Flanders, Oct., 1311.

Finding himself, however, unable to do without his favorite, Edward, within a few months, removed to York, to be out of the way of his Barons, and the latter were, shortly, astonished and enraged to hear of the

Recall of Gaveston, Jan., 1312. Immediately, a powerful confederacy was formed, and they rose in

INSURRECTION, 1312,—under a bold and able

Leader—the Earl of Lancaster, cousin-german of the King, the Earls of Warwick, Hereford, and Pembroke, being the other chiefs.

Events.—Lancaster, with a body of troops, hastened to York, and thence, (finding his prey flown North), to Newcastle, where he almost caught the fugitive King, and Gaveston, who, however, succeeded in getting off, by water, and reaching Scarborough, in the generally-considered impregnable castle of which place, Edward left the favorite in supposed safety, himself going on to York.

A body of the insurgents speedily formed the *siege of Scarborough Castle.*—*Baronial party victorious.*

B. coms.—Earls of Surrey, and Pembroke.

R. "—*Piers de Gaveston,*

who, starved out, *capitulated*, the articles containing a *provision* that, should no accommodation be effected before *August*, the castle should be restored to him: meanwhile, *he was to be confined in Wallingford Castle.*

When, however, he was being conveyed thither, by Pembroke, he was seized, at Deddington, by Warwick, with a band of retainers, and, by them, carried to Warwick Castle, whither immediately repaired Lancaster, Hereford, and Arundel, who, with Warwick, proceeded to the

Trial, condemnation (in spite of the articles of the capitulation), and **Execution of Gaveston**, on Blacklow Hill, (near Warwick), **June 19, 1312.**

The King, at first, threatened vengeance upon all who had taken part against the dead favorite, but soon cooled down, and pardoned them, on condition that Gaveston should not be declared a traitor.

2. OF THE BARONS, 1321-22; 1326-27.

Cause.—*Edward's favoritism for*

Hugh de Spenser, (or, le De Spenser), a young Englishman, of high family, elegant, and accomplished, who had been a follower of Lancaster, but had entered the service of the King, who promoted him to that position of affection and honor which Gaveston had held, marrying him to a daughter of the Earl of Gloucester, (who had fallen at Bannockburn), allowing him to dispense Royal favors at pleasure, and bestowing upon him, and his father, immense estates in South Wales.

The new favourite, following a like course to that pursued by his predecessor, excited the rage and hostility of Lancaster and the confederate Barons, against himself and his father, (who was, however, a virtuous, wise, valiant, old nobleman, entirely guiltless of the offensive conduct of his son), and issued in their

INSURRECTION, 1321.—The nobles entering London, with their troops, appeared before Parliament, at Westminster, — presented thereto charges against the De Spensers of arrogating to themselves the Royal authority, — of preventing the nobility from having access to the King, — and, having, on these grounds, procured an Act for the

Banishment of the De Spensers, Aug. 1321, compelled Edward's assent thereto, and the favorite and his father left England.

Soon after, however, the Queen, travelling to Canterbury, was, on the way, refused a lodging in the castle of one of the confederate nobles, an insult which so turned

popular feeling against their party, that the King was able to take the castle, and to effect the

Recall of the De Spensers, (1321), within three months of their banishment.

The Barons' chief strength lying in the Welsh marches, Edward now hastened thither, with an army, Lancaster, (joined by Hereford), with his allies, assembled in force, but, finding himself unable to make headway against the King, fled North, expecting, there, assistance from the Scots, with whom he had made a secret treaty.

Edward pursued vigorously,—the Earl's plans of defence were frustrated, while his forces daily melted away : finally, he made a stand, and risked all, in *battle, at*

Boroughbridge, (Yrks.), Mar. 16, 1322.—*Royalists victorious.*

R. coms.—Sir Simon Ward; Sir Andrew Barclay.

B. „ —Thomas, Earl of Lancaster.

Hereford was slain, and

Lancaster taken,—conducted, on a sorry jade, to Pontefract Castle, (one of his own),—hastily tried, (no defence being allowed), and condemned, and **executed**, six days after the battle, on an eminence near the Castle.

Those captured in this battle were variously executed, sentenced to perpetual imprisonment, and mulct by forfeiture of portion of their estates.

This success proved Edward's ruin, for, so elated with his triumph as to regard his opponents as entirely crushed, he cancelled several of the Ordinances, loaded the De Spensers with greater honors than ever, bestowing upon them immense grants from the forfeited estates, and, generally, pursued a course that alienated the nation from him, and left him friendless in the day of his sore need.

The place of Lancaster, however, as leader of the confederate Barons, was to be taken by the Queen herself, who, equally with them, detested De Spenser, as being her only-too-successful rival in her husband's affection, but who became associated and mixed up in the contest in a manner quite unforeseen.

Philip V., of France, dying, his successor,

Charles IV., (evidently seeking a pretext for war, with a view to winning Edward's French possessions), on pretence

that the latter had not attended his coronation, or done him homage, *overran* Guienne.

To compose this difference with the French King, it was decided that Queen Isabella, his sister, should visit Paris.

In France, she met with a large number of the exiles of the Lancastrian party, and amongst them Roger Mortimer, Lord of Wigmore, (who had escaped, after Boroughbridge.) Upon this nobleman, she, at once, placed her affections, becoming his paramour, and cast in her lot with the party to which he belonged. A treasonable correspondence was opened with its members in England, and plans were set in train for a descent upon England.

The Queen now sent to her husband to say that her brother would accept the homage of Prince Edward, for Guienne, if his father would give him the Duchy, and send him across to take the oaths: this, the King, by his favorite's advice, did, and thus did his mother, by craft, gain possession, for her party, of the person of the heir-apparent, at this critical juncture, 1325.

Charles received his nephew's homage, and invested him with the Duchy,—but the Queen, though her business was, thus, done, took no step for returning home, whereupon her husband, who had heard, to his horrified surprise, of the state of affairs, sent to demand her return, with the Prince, to which she replied that she would not go back, till De Spenser should be, for ever, removed from the King's presence and Councils.

Isabella, now, visited Flanders,—affianced young Edward, (on her own responsibility), to Philippa, daughter of the Count of Hainault,—and, by the help of this prince, assembled a force of 3,000 men, with whom she embarked, from the harbour of Dort, for the

INVASION OF ENGLAND, (which was arranged to be **SUPPORTED BY A RISING OF** the confederate **BARONS**, who were prepared to join her), landing at Orwell, (Suffolk), Sept. 24, 1326-1327.

Joined by the allied nobles and their following, and by the very forces sent against her by the King, the Queen moved inland, easily and unopposed, so general and profound was her husband's unpopularity.

He, with the hope of raising its loyal people, passed, with the two De Spensers, into the West, but, failing in his design, left at Bristol, as governor of the Castle, the

father of his favorite, and, with the latter, embarked for Lundy Isle.

The invaders, advancing, by way of Oxford, fast upon Edward's heels, speedily reached, and formed the *siege of*,

Bristol,—which, in consequence of the garrison mutinying against him, was *surrendered, by De Spenser*, (the elder—now 90 years old), who was, then, executed, as a traitor, on a gibbet, his corpse being, afterwards, cut in pieces, and thrown to the dogs, 1326.

Edward, and the favorite, were driven, by a contrary wind, to land at Swansea, whence they passed to Neath Abbey, and there hid. They were, however, speedily discovered, and taken, the King being sent to Kenilworth Castle, in custody of the Earl of Kenilworth. *Young*

De Spenser was *condemned*, as a traitor, on the following

Charges:—1. Unduly influencing the King,—widening the breach between him and his subjects,—and advising Lancaster's execution.

2. Hiring persons to assassinate the Queen.

3. Conveying away the King, and the Royal treasures.—and executed, at Hereford.

Isabella, now, with Mortimer, supreme, assembled, in the King's name,

Parliament, at Westminster, Jan 7, 1327, at which there were *preferred, against the King*,

Charges,—of 1. Indolence.

2. Incapacity.

3. Losing Scotland.

4. Oppressing the Church.

5. Cruelty to the Barons.

These were declared proved, whereupon,

Edward was formally *deposed*, and his eldest son raised to the sovereignty, (nominally—the real power resting in the Queen, and her lover).

A deputation was then sent to Kenilworth Castle to

Edward, who, making "a virtue of necessity," *accepted his deposition*, and his son's accession, actually humbly thanking the Barons, for allowing the Crown to *remain in his family*.

Thereupon, a

Proclamation was issued,—declaring that "Six

Edward, late King of England, of his own good will, and with the advice and consent of his Parliament, had put himself out of the government, and had granted and willed it to Sir Edward, his eldest son and heir."

ECCLESIASTICAL AFFAIRS.

Primates.—Robert Winchelsea ; Walter Reynolds.

Taking advantage of Edward's weakness, the Pope renewed his encroachments, but was firmly resisted by Parliament, who made it one of the main charges against the King that he had allowed Bulls to be introduced into England.

The clergy obtained the earliest Parliamentary acknowledgment of their rights and privileges, in the celebrated statute,

"**Articuli Cleri**,"—which consisted of 16 articles, (with answers, made by Edward, by the advice of the Council), setting forth certain grievances, suffered by the Church of England, and its bishops and clergy.

VARIOUS MATTERS.

For some years, of this reign, there was great distress and suffering, owing to

Famine, (with consequent **Plague**),—caused, chiefly, by bad harvests, the worst portion of the period being from 1314-1318, during which, even the Royal household with difficulty procured food, the poor fed on offal and roots, and brewing was forbidden, in order to save the grain. The nobles distrusted most of their retainers, who filled the country with murder and pillage.

Earthenware came into use.

Bills of Exchange were introduced.

Earls, and **Barons**, are first called "**Peers**," in the Act exiling the De Spensers, 1321.

The Houses of

Lords and Commons,—were divided as at present: they had, from the first, been separate houses, but up to Edward II.'s reign, the Knights had sat with the Peers ; henceforth, they formed part of the Commons.

Southwark was united to **London**, and placed under the Lord Mayor's jurisdiction.

The Order of

Knights Templars was, for certain alleged crimes and offences, suppressed, 1312, first in France, and, then, in England, and Ireland.

SCOTCH AFFAIRS.

Edward entered, at his accession, on the by-his-father-enjoined

INVASION OF SCOTLAND, 1307,—but, after marching a little way into the country, made peace with some of the nobles, at Dumfries,—appointed Pembroke, Guardian,—and returned to England.

Bruce, taking advantage of the new King's weakness and sloth, continued, slowly, but surely, to pursue the work of releasing Scotland, and, in three years, had all the country, excepting a few fortresses, in his power. Edward now awoke to the fact of what he had lost, and, assembling an army, undertook, in company with Gaveston, an

INVASION OF SCOTLAND, 1310,—issuing in his retreating, at the end of one campaign, whereupon, Bruce succeeded in reducing nearly all the fortresses held by the English, excepting

Stirling Castle, (besieged 1313-14), the only important one left them, and even this, its governor, Mowbray, had consented to surrender, if not relieved by a certain date.

Meanwhile, however, Gaveston dead, all parties were united, and, thus, the Kingdom's force was available against the Scots. Accordingly, Edward, collecting, from Saxony, Flanders, Ireland, and Wales, 100,000 men, set out upon his disastrous

INVASION OF SCOTLAND, 1314.—Reaching the neighbourhood of Stirling, shortly before the date fixed for surrender, the King found Bruce, posted within two miles of the place, with a morass on one side, and a hill on the other, (which prevented the possibility of his being surrounded), while, in front, he had caused deep pits to be dug, filled with brush, and covered with sod, so as to appear a grassy plain. The Scotch force consisted of only 30,000 men, (veterans, however, burning with patriotism, and bent on "death or victory"), with a reserve of 15,000 camp-followers, posted out of sight.

The two armies joined issue in the memorable *battle of Bannockburn*, June 24, 1314.—*Scots* completely *victorious*.

S. com.—Robert Bruce.

E. „ —Edward II.

Previously to the general engagement, Bruce slew, in single combat, an English Knight, De Boon, who rode out, in challenge, between the armies.

The English archers, and infantry, opened the battle so favorably for their side, that Bruce was compelled to call up his reserves : meanwhile, however, the enemy's cavalry had, in charging, become fatally entangled amongst the pitfalls, so that, they were, on the Scotch monarch's charging, with the freshly-brought-up forces, easily thrown into utter disorder, the panic spreading to the rest of the army, and issuing in a general stampede, pell-mell, in hot haste : pursuit was made for several miles, and immense numbers of English were slain while attempting to pass the Forth. The English monarch barely escaped, being admitted, by the Earl of March, to Dumfries, and escaping, thence, by sea, to Berwick.

By this grand victory, which cost Edward 30,000 men, and his treasures, and military engines and stores, the

Independence of Scotland was completed, and Bruce established on the Throne.

A few days after,

Stirling Castle, defended by Philip de Mowbray, capitulated to Edward Bruce.

Bruce now obtained the restitution, by exchange, of his wife and other relatives, (who had remained prisoners since their capture) ; negotiations for a treaty were, however, broken off, in consequence of Edward's refusing to acknowledge Bruce as King. A

Truce, for two years, was concluded, between Edward and Bruce, 1319, but not ratified, so that, on its expiration, hostilities were resumed, the Scots making

INCURSIONS INTO ENGLAND, as far as the Humber, slaying and ravaging : Edward was powerless against them, owing to his quarrel with the Barons. After, however, the battle of Boroughbridge, Edward found himself able to undertake an

INVASION OF SCOTLAND, 1322.—Bruce, however, cut

off all possible support from him, and, so, frustrated his enterprise, which, accordingly, he abandoned.

Finally, both sides being weary of the contest, a

Truce, for 13 years, was agreed upon, 1323, but did not last its time.

IRISH AFFAIRS.

Bruce's success in Scotland induced the Irish to hope for the recovery of their independence, by his aid. Accordingly, they sent over to him a deputation, in response to which, he despatched his brother, Edward, to head the struggle for national freedom.

This

WAR WITH ENGLAND, 1315-18,—was, at first, propitious, to Ireland, and

Edward Bruce was crowned King of Ulster, 1315.

Soon, however, came heavy reverse, in the *battle of*

Athenree, (Galway), Aug. 10, 1316.—*English victorious.*

E. com.—Lord Ed. Birmingham.

I. " —Phelim O'Connor, King of Connaught.

This victory, costing 11,000 Irish lives, was virtually the *quietus* of the movement.

At this juncture, Robert Bruce, himself, landed in the Island, with a large army, and did great mischief in the South, his troops, however, suffering fearful privations and loss, and being, by him, withdrawn, without effecting anything of importance.

This attempt to disunite Ireland from England received a final blow, at the *battle of*

Dundalk, (Louth), Oct. 5, 1318.—*English victorious.*

E. com.—Lord Birmingham.

I. " —Sir Edward Bruce, (who was slain).

Dublin University was founded, 1309.

CONTEMPORARY SOVEREIGNS.

Scotland.	Germany.	Aragon.
ROBERT (Bruce) I.	ALBERT.	JAMES II.
	HENRY VII.	ALFONSO IV.
	(Interregnum)	
France.	LOUIS IV.,	Popes.
PHILIP IV.	and FREDERICK.	CLEMENT V.
LOUIS X.		JOHN XXII.
JOHN I.	Spain.	
PHILIP V.	Castile.	
CHARLES IV.	FERDINAND IV.	
	ALFONSO XI.	

EDWARD III., ("of Windsor").

Dates.—Nov. 13, 1312, at Windsor; Jan. 25, (receiving, however, the homage of the Peers on the preceding day), 1327–1377, June 21, at Shene, (Richmond), from the wearing effects of trouble, and of grief for the death of the Black Prince.

Descent, &c.—Eldest son of Edward III., and Isabella.

He was never Prince of Wales; the title merged in the Crown, on his father's accession, and the latter did not make his son a fresh grant of it.

Claim.—*Good*,—being the heir of Edward II., whose title was valid.

Married.—1328, Philippa, (?–1369), daughter of William, Count of Hainault.

On Edward's accession, she crossed to England, travelled North to her betrothed, then engaged in the War with Scotland, and was married at York.

She proved one of the greatest and best of the English Queen-consorts,—identifying herself, with rare devotion and thoroughness, with, and laboring earnestly for, her husband's, and the nation's, welfare.

Her memory deserves remembrance for, specially,

1. Developing the cloth manufacture.
2. Defeating the invasion of the Scots, under David.
3. Fostering the coal-trade, (in the latter part of her

life), by her example in devoting special attention to certain mines on her own estates, in Tynedale.

Her death proved a period to her husband's reputation, and the purity of the Court, which she had rigidly maintained.

Issue.—Edward, ("the Black Prince,") *m.* his cousin, Joan, Countess of Kent, and *d.* 1376; William, of Hatfield, *d.* 1335; Lionel, Duke of Clarence, *m.* Elizabeth de Burgh, and *d.* 1368; John, of Gaunt, (Ghent), Duke of Lancaster, *m.* (1), Blanche, of Lancaster, (2), Constantia, of Castile, and *d.* 1399; Edmund, of Langley, Duke of York, *m.* Isabella, of Castile, *d.* 1402; William, of Windsor; Thomas, of Woodstock, Duke of Gloucester, *m.* Eleanor de Bohun, 1397; Isabel, *m.* De Courcy, Duke of Bedford; Mary, *m.* John de Montfort, Duke of Brittany; Margaret, *m.* John Earl of Pembroke; Blanche; and another daughter.

Character.—In person and appearance, greatly like Edward I., whom he closely resembled, mentally and morally, also.

Of splendid personal valor; and unrivalled, as a captain, in his own, and scarcely surpassed in any other, age.

A wise, prudent, energetic, humane, magnanimous, and, (in the widest sense), patriotic ruler; but tainted with the love of arbitrary power, (leading to unconstitutional and overbearing proceedings), which marked his grandfather.

Of clear and penetrating intellect, and wide and varied mental scope.

Ambitious; proud; impulsive, and hasty; warm-hearted, generous, and munificent.

Virtuous and temperate, until the death of Philippa; an ardent and courtly husband, and fond parent.

Taken all in all, one of the greatest, best, and most useful, of our sovereigns.

WARS.

1. WITH SCOTLAND,—see "*Scotch Affairs.*"

2. WITH FRANCE, 1339-40; renewed, 1342-47; renewed, 1355-60.

Origin.—

Edward's Claim to the French Throne, on the death of Charles IV., 1328, in opposition to Philip VI. (of Valois),—the case standing thus—

Philip IV. had left three sons, Louis, Philip, and

Charles, and a daughter, Isabella : all three sons reigned, and died without male issue ; Isabella married Edward II., and, so, became the mother of Edward III.

Philip, of Valois, was son of Charles of Valois, brother of Philip IV.

On the death of Charles IV., he succeeded as *the nearest male heir*, his title being disputed by

Edward, who claimed as the direct lineal heir, through his mother,—a claim which, as Philip contended, *was invalid*, by the Frankish *Salic Law*, which excluded females from the French Crown.

Edward, in response, contended that, though they could not succeed, yet females could convey the right, to the Throne, through their male offspring.

At this juncture, however, he was not in circumstances to assert his alleged right, by arms : accordingly, he gave way, when Philip was crowned, and, in general terms, did homage for Guienne.

The matter remained in abeyance, for nine years, when there was a

Renewal of Edward's Claim, 1337,—of which, the *real Causes*,—were

1. *Annoyance* suffered, in connection with *Guienne*, by Edward.

2. *Aid to the Scots*, and shelter to David Bruce, given by the *French*.

Since Edward first asserted his right, there had been born, (1332), to Jane, Queen of Navarre, daughter of Louis X., (Isabella's eldest brother), a son, Charles, and a son each to, also, Jane, and Margaret, the daughters of Philip V., (Louis' next brother). These three young princes, (on the very ground of that monarch's pretension), had a better claim than Edward. Indeed, so palpably bad was his cause, and so utterly unpopular in France, that he would, doubtless, have retired from the arena, had it not been for the grievances (just named), which he had against Philip, together with ambitious visions of the conquest of France, or at least, of the recovery of those portions lost by John.

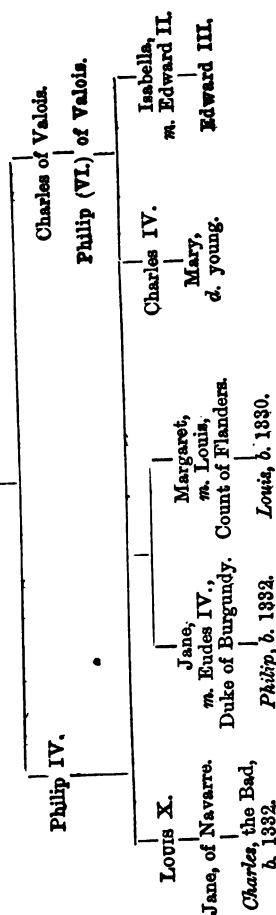
Having determined on prosecuting his purpose,

Edward, in order to meet the case of the birth of Charles, &c., shifted the ground of his claim,—alleging, now, that the succession was to be regulated by *proximity of blood*, not by *descent from an elder branch*.

Edward's, Philip's, and Charles's descent, &c., may, and should, be studied from the following

Table, illustrating Edward III.'s Claim to the French Crown.

PHILIP III.



Events of War.—Edward gained, as allies, the Emperor, (Louis); the Dukes of Brabant, and Gueldres; the Archbishop of Cologne, and, (intending to commence operations from the side of Flanders), Jacob van Artevelde, the celebrated brewer of Ghent, and leader of the Flemish democrats.

Philip, also, joined to himself the Kings of Navarre, and Bohemia; the Dukes of Bretagne, Austria, and Lorraine; and most of the minor German princes.

Having raised immense sums, by various taxes, and, therewith, fitted out powerful armaments,

Edward sailed, from Orwell, to Antwerp, July, 1338, but found his allies dilatory, and, so, did nothing that year. He, however, *entered upon an*

Invasion of France, 1339.—As soon as he crossed the frontiers, he found himself deserted by his allies, and, Philip avoiding an engagement, was *compelled to retreat*, and satisfy himself by ravaging the frontier; after which, he retired to England, having had all his enormous preparations for nothing.

Next year was more propitious, being signalized by a great naval triumph.—

Edward having assembled 400 ships, for a fresh expedition, Philip determined, with a large fleet, to intercept him, but was forestalled by the English King, *who*, sailing before he was expected, came upon the French squadron, and engaged it in *battle, off*

Sluys, (Zealand, in Holland), June 24, 1340.—*English completely victorious.*

E. com.—Edward III.

F. coms.—Hugh Quieret; Peter Bahuchet.

The engagement, after lasting nine hours, ended in the French having 230 ships taken, and nearly all the rest destroyed, and 30,000 men, (it is said), slain, while the English had only two ships sunk, and 4,000 men killed.

The news of this fight, (probably the most complete and bloody naval action on record), his ministers, not daring to themselves tell him, announced to Philip through the medium of his jester.

Edward having landed, and mustered 200,000 men, speedily formed the *siege of*

Tournay, 1340—but, finding it too well defended, and

his supplies failing, *abandoned* it, in a few weeks, and, his means being exhausted, consented to a

Truce,—for nine months, which, before the expiration of that term, was extended to another year, **1340-1342**.
The

WAR was **RENEWED, 1342-45.**

Occasion of Renewal.—A *disputed succession, in Brittany*,—on the death of John, the third Duke of the name, the claimants being John de Montfort, surviving brother of the deceased Duke, and Charles, of Blois, (nephew of the French King), who had married Jane, daughter of the Duke's elder brother.

The French peers awarded the Crown to Charles, but John succeeded in gaining possession of the Duchy, and, then, crossing over to England, offered to do homage to Edward, as King of France, if the King would support his cause, who, glad of such an opening as was thus offered into France, readily consented.

Events.—Charles, who was aided by French troops, took his rival prisoner, early in the contest, and would, doubtless, have soon won the whole Duchy, but for the heroic conduct of the prisoner's wife, who, having roused Rennes, and other cities, to enthusiasm on her behalf, threw herself into, and endured a long *siege of*,

Hennebon, 1342,—being, when in the last extremity, relieved by sir Walter Manny, with a force from England.

Edward, now, entered upon an

Invasion of Brittany, 1342,—but the superior strength of the enemy induced him to consent to a

Truce, Jan., 1343,—for three years, which, however, was not kept, and almost immediately broken.

The hostilities, being resumed, were feebly carried on, until Edward sent the valiant Earl of Derby, (Henry Plantagenet), with a force, to Guienne, there to make a diversion. He formed the *siege of*

Bergerac, (in the Dordogne), **1345**.—*English victorious.*

E. com.—Earl Derby.

F. "—Count de Lisle.

The town capitulated, in August. The enemy were, then, engaged in battle, at the, by them, invested town of

Auberoche, (Perigord), Oct. 23.—*English* completely *victorious*.

E. com.—Earl Derby.

F. „ —Count de Lisle.

The French outnumbered the English, six to one, but almost all of them were slain, or captured : all of the chief families of Languedoc lost some member, and it took over 50,000 livres to ransom the prisoners. Derby, after this battle, continued for some time his victorious career.

Edward, now, went over to Flanders, to endeavour to persuade the people to have his son as their Earl, but he met with strenuous opposition,—setting himself to overcome which, Artaveldt was assassinated, at Ghent, whereupon, Edward, having lost his chief prop, returned to England.

Next year, in July, he, with a large force, sailed from Southampton, giving out that he intended to invade the Southern provinces, but, changing his course, landed near La Hogue, with the double purpose of attracting the French troops from Guienne, where Derby was being hardly pressed, and forming a junction with 40,000 Flemings, who had entered France on the North.

Montebourg, Carentan, St. Loo, Caen, and other places, were *captured*, by Edward, who, having sent his vessels home, with the spoil, marched along the left bank of the Seine, threatening Paris, with a view to bring Philip to battle before all his forces should be gathered. The French King, however, broke down the bridges, and stratagem, alone, enabled the English to cross the river safely.

Arriving at the Somme, Edward found Philip, with 100,000 men, posted, to defend the line of that river, at Amiens,—and himself shut up between the French host, the stream, and the sea, and in great danger of being cut off. A peasant, however, shewing him a ford, at Blanchetaque, he crossed, in face of 12,000 men, posted to prevent his passage. Philip was behind, but the rising of the tide prevented his crossing, and he, accordingly, retired to Abbeville, and there loitered a whole day, while Edward, in view of imminent battle, refreshed his troops, and prepared for the encounter, placing his forces on rising ground, near Cressy, in three lines, the first under the Prince of

Wales, (now only 15), and the Earls of Warwick, and Oxford,—the second, under the Earls of Arundel, and Northampton,—and the third, the reserve; on the hill, under his own command : in front of each division, were drawn up the archers, in the form of a portcullis, and, on a rising ground, were planted a few cannon, (said, by many, to have been now first used). The whole army numbered less than 40,000.

Philip left Abbeville, the next morning, with 120,000 men, and, after a most disorderly march, came within sight of the English, a little before noon, with his men exhausted and in disorder, which led his old captains to advise postponement of the attack till the next day : some authorities state that he, being short of temper, refused,—others, that he ordered the delay, but that the rear, pushing forward, caused such unrestrainable confusion that he was compelled to give the word to begin the great battle of

Cressy, (Picardy), Aug. 26, 1346.—*English gloriously victorious.*

E. com.—Edward III.

F. "—Philip VI.

During the morning, a heavy rain, accompanied by thunder and lightning, had fallen, relaxing the weapons of the Genoese archers, who, 15,000 strong, formed the French van.

Being ordered, about 5 P.M., to open the battle, these discharged a general flight, which, however, owing to their fatigue, the effect of the rain, and the dazzling of a sudden outburst of sun, proved almost vain,—while the English archers replied with such thick, steady, and deadly, showers of cloth-yard shafts, as to compel the Genoese to retire, whereupon, their own cavalry fell upon them, to stay their flight, and were themselves thrown into confusion.

An attack now followed, by two bodies of French, under, respectively, Comte d'Alençon, and the Earl of Flanders, supported by cavalry, and the division of the Prince of Wales was, thereby, pressed so hard, that the second line came to its support. Still, the issue was doubtful, and a message was sent, by Warwick, for help, to the King, who, however, on learning that his son was not dead or wounded, sent back to say that he should *have no help*, but must win his spurs with, and by, all

the glory of the day. Animated by this message, the Prince and the rest fought with redoubled vigor and courage, and, speedily, decided the day in their own favor, the bravest of the enemy's leaders being slain, and Philip in flight for Amiens, with only 5 barons and 60 knights.

On the field,—where fell at least 30,000 of the enemy,—were found over 80 princes and nobles, (including the blind King of Bohemia; the King of Majorca; the Dukes of Lorraine, and Bourbon; and Comte d'Alençon), and 1,200 knights!

This magnificent triumph not only saved Edward, but, also, relieved

Derby, who now wasted several counties, and *took, by storm,* the city of

Poitiers.—The English King, himself, marched, unmolested to, and formed the *siege of,*

Calais, 1346-47.—English victorious.

E. com.—Edward III.

F. "—Jean de Vienne.

The place was closely blockaded, whereupon, the Governor drove out all who were short of provisions, Edward allowing a first detachment of these to retire through his lines, but refusing passage to another body, who, accordingly, 500 in number, perished under the walls.

Philip raised the Oriflamme, (the sacred standard of France), and mustered 15,000 men, at Wissant, for the purpose of raising the siege, and several ineffectual efforts were made to raise the siege.

Finally, the town *capitulated*, after 11 months' brave defence, **Aug. 4.** The terms granted by Edward included the saving of the lives of all the garrison, and the inhabitants, on condition that six of the chief townsmen should surrender themselves to execution, coming out with bare heads and feet, ropes round their necks, and the keys in their hands: Eustace de St. Pierre, and five others, nobly volunteered for this sacrifice, but were saved, at the earnest intercession of the Queen. (Henceforth, until Mary's reign, Calais was a flourishing English colony, and market.)

The two monarchs now agreed upon a

Truce, 1347, lasting till **1355,** (the Plague being the cause of the long suspension of hostilities).

During these years, Edward offered to Philip, and, then, to John, who succeeded him, to resign his pretensions to

the Throne, if his full sovereignty were acknowledged, by the French King, which proposal was, however, refused, and the

WAR RENEWED, 1355-60.

The Black Prince *ravaged*, with terrible results, the South of France, 1355,—while

Edward entered upon an

Invasion of the North,—*which*, however, owing to want of provisions, and news of the Scots wasting the Border, *he abandoned*, returning home. The

Black Prince, resuming his ravages, next year, *overran*

Querci, Limousin, Auvergne, and Berri,—but, when in Poitou, hearing that King John was approaching, with a large army, retreated (having but 8,000 men with him), but was overtaken by the French, from 60,000 to 80,000 strong, at Maupertuis, five miles from Poitiers, and, there, compelled to fight what is termed the *battle of*

Poitiers, (Poitou), **Sep. 19, 1356**.—*English* grandly *victorious*.

E. com.—Edward, the Black Prince.

F. "—John II.

Edward held a strong position, environed with hedges, and approachable by only a narrow lane, but his retreat was so effectually cut off, and his provisions so easily interceptible, that, with a little delay, he might have been compelled to yield, to John, who, however, (after, unsuccessfully, offering terms, involving the surrender of the Prince, and 100 knights), secure of triumph, ordered an attack.

The French cavalry, entering the lane, were smitten down, like flies, by the English archers, who lined the hedges, the road being, thus, speedily choked up, whereupon, the enemy burst through the hedges, upon their antagonists, but met with the same fate as that of the first assailants, and were thrown into confusion, which the English men-at-arms, by a furious charge, (for some time obstinately resisted), turned to a general panic, and utter, crushing, defeat, costing the enemy immense loss, *King John*, himself, with his young son, being *among the prisoners*. The Black Prince treated the captives with the utmost deference, and, on entering London with them, on his return home in triumph, 1357, rode bare-headed by

the side of the monarch-captive, who received the Savoy Palace, in the Strand, as his place of confinement.

After several efforts at an accommodation, frustrated by his unreasonable demands,

Edward, with a large army, undertook a fresh

Invasion of France, 1359,—forming, with a view to be crowned there, the *siege of*

Rheims, 1359,—which, owing to its defence, he *raised*, in 7 weeks, proceeding thence to the gates of Paris, whence, however, severe weather, and want of provisions, compelled him to a retreat, during which, his army suffered immense loss. This induced him to lower his tone, and agree to the terms of the

Treaty of Bretigny, May 8, 1360.

Articles.—1. Edward to resign his claim to the sovereignty of France, Anjou, Touraine, and Maine,—on condition of possessing, for ever, the full sovereignty of Guienne, Gascony, Poitou, Saintonge, the Limousin, the Angoumois, Ponthieu, and Calais.

2. John to be ransomed for 3,000,000 crowns of gold.

3. Certain barons, and others, to be kept as hostages. The

French King was allowed to return to France, to raise his ransom, failing in which, (owing to the bad state of the country), he, honorably, came back, and *died in the Savoy*, 1364.

He was succeeded by his son, Charles V., who regarded not the treaty made by his father.

III. WITH FRANCE, 1369 - 75, (regardable as a *renewal* of the previous contest).

Origin.—Charles's summoning the *Black Prince* to appear before him, and justify his conduct in levying heavy taxes on his vassals, (contrary to the terms of the Treaty of Bretigny).

The Prince replied that he would come, at the head of 60,000 men,—and war again broke out, Edward, by advice of Parliament, resuming the title of King of France.

Events.—The French entered upon an

Invasion of the English Provinces,—which, thanks to the popular discontent, the rapidly declining health of the Black Prince, (which prevented his acting with his usual energy), and the vigor and valour of the French,

under the celebrated Duguesclin, and the "free companies," (whose aid Charles had purchased), proved eminently successful, large tracts of territory being recovered.

The Prince, finding himself unable to bear up any longer against his illness, determined to return to England, previously, however, forming the *siege of*

Limoges, (Limousin), (which had revolted against him, and admitted a French garrison), **1370.**—*English victorious.*

E. com.—Edward, the Black Prince.

F. coms.—Hugh de la Roche; John de Villemur.

The place was taken by storm, and the Prince incurred lasting infamy, by butchering all the inhabitants, (men, women, and children), and the garrison, excepting 80 French knights, whom, in admiration for their prowess, he spared. Shortly after, he quitted France, for ever.

After his departure, the French continued to reap wide successes, and Edward, who made several vain efforts to send reinforcements into Gascony, found, to his bitter chagrin, his Continental dominions dwindling away, until

Calais, Bordeaux, Bayonne, and a few places in the Dordogne, alone, of all the English possessions in France, remained, 1374. Under these circumstances, the English King was glad to consent to a

Truce, 1375.

4. (The Black Prince's), **IN SPAIN.**

Origin.—*The Prince's espousing the cause of Pedro, the Cruel*, (a name he well merited, having, *e.g.*, murdered his wife, and three half-brothers), who had been driven from the throne of Castile, by his natural brother, and Henry, Count of Trastamare, aided by Duguesclin, and his bands.

Events.—The Black Prince entered Spain, with about 30,000 men, and engaged the enemy in *battle, at*

Najara, (or, **Navarette**,) (Castile), **Ap. 3, 1367.**—*English victorious.*

E. com.—Edward, the Black Prince.

Sp. "—Henry, of Trastamare.

This victory set Pedro on the Throne again, but his barbarous treatment of the Castilians, who had supported his rival, excited the people to such a pitch, that Henry

easily succeeded in again dethroning, and murdering, him.

Previously to this, the Black Prince had returned to his Duchy, (of Aquitaine and Gascony, with which his father had invested him), which he had previously governed with great ability. Now, however, having seriously involved himself pecuniarily, by his wild expedition, the expenses of which Pedro had failed to pay, (as he had promised to do), he was compelled to levy grindingly-heavy and unpopular imposts, (e.g., a hearth-tax, for 5 years), which roused the animosity of his subjects, and led them to complain to the King of France, who, (as previously narrated), summoned Charles before him. This led to war, and the war to the loss of the English possessions in France, which was, therefore, clearly traceable back to the foolish Castilian Expedition.

POLITICAL, &c., AFFAIRS.

Events of Edward's Minority, 1327 - 30. —

Edward was crowned, on his father's deposition, but, as he was a minor, Parliament appointed a

Council of Regency,—consisting of 12 members, of whom the head was the Earl of Lancaster, (brother of the one executed at Pontefract), who was made Guardian, and Protector. At the same time, there was an

Act of Indemnity,—for all the violences of the Revolution.

The majority of the Council were in the interest of the *Queen*, and, accordingly, it was without difficulty that she, *and Mortimer, actually held the reins of government.*

The popular discontent was, ere long, aroused against the favorite, for the shameful peace with Scotland, and

Lancaster, Kent, (brother of the late King), **and Norfolk**, combined to overthrow **Mortimer**, who, however, compelled them to submit, and, soon after, caused his most-to-be-dreaded enemy,

Kent, to be arrested, on a charge of conspiring to place the dead Edward, (whom his brother, however, believed to be still living), on the Throne : being found "Guilty," by the truckling Peers, he was **executed**, by the Queen's mandate, **1330.**

Edward had been, for some time, indignantly ashamed of *his ignoble position*, and now, being 18, formed the idea of

asserting himself, and, being encouraged thereto, by Lord Montacute, to whom he opened the matter, took measures to break his bondage, on the approaching meeting of Parliament, at Nottingham. Isabella, and Mortimer, lodging in the Castle, he obtained the coöperation of the Governor, who admitted a force, by an under-ground passage; the Prince, himself, joined them, from without, Mortimer was seized, and next morning,

Edward, by a Proclamation, declared that he, henceforth, took the Government into his own hands, Oct. 1330.

In a few weeks, there assembled a Parliament, at Westminster,—by which, Mortimer was condemned to death, on the

Charges that he had

1. Accroached, (*i.e.*, illegally exercised), the Royal authority.

2. Caused the death of Edward II., and Kent.

3. Embezzled the Royal treasures,—and sentenced to be **hanged**, as a traitor and enemy to his King and country, which was, accordingly, done, **Nov. 1330**, at Tyburn, (this being, it is said, the first execution on that spot.)

He eminently merited his fate, but, yet, was unjustly executed, since he was condemned unheard,—on which ground, his attainder was, very properly, reversed, and his title, and estates, restored to his son, Roger Mortimer, 1354.

Queen Isabella, also, was declared to have forfeited her lands: her life was spared, however, and a pension of £3,000 granted her; but she was confined, a close prisoner, to her castle, at Risings, where the King paid her an annual visit of ceremony, never allowing her, however, to have a voice in public affairs.

After the Black Prince's death, **Edward** allowed his fourth son, the **Duke of Lancaster**, a prominent place in the government, greatly to the dissatisfaction of the people, who were, however, reassured by the King's promise that Richard, (his eldest son's son), should succeed.

During his latter years, after his wife's death, Edward gave himself up to pleasure and ease, in the society of **Alice Perrers**, one of the Queen's ladies, who gained entire

control over him. To this wretched connection and conduct, must be attributed much of the reverses in France, and, also, his feeble rule, and apathy as to his people's interest.

STATUTES, (not mentioned elsewhere).

Act ordering, at least, one, (or more, if need were), Parliament a year, 1331.

Act forbidding infringement on liberty and property, contrary to the Great Charter, 1332.

Statute of Treasons, 1351,—limiting political treason to

1. Compassing the King's death.
2. Levying war against him.
3. Aiding his foreign enemies, within the Kingdom.

This enactment was of inestimable value, as treason had hitherto been so vaguely understood.

1st Statute of Laborers, 1350, (passed because the few laborers left by the Plague asked unreasonable wages), ordered that all laborers, male and female, must work, if asked to do so, at the rate of pay current before 1347, or be imprisoned, till surety should be provided that they would work.

2nd Statute of Laborers, 1351, (to the same end), ordering laborers to work at certain rates of wage, named in the Act.

Several

Statutes to limit Purveyance, were passed,—enacting, *inter alia*,

1. No purveyance to be made, save for the houses of the King, the Queen, and their children.
2. Such appraisement to be at a fair price.
3. Purchases under 20s. to be paid at once, and sums over that amount to be settled within three months.
4. The "heinous" name "*purveyor*" to be changed to "*buyer*."

ECCLESIASTICAL, &c., AFFAIRS.

Primates.—Simon Mepham ; John Stratford ; Thomas Bradwardine ; Simon Islip ; Simon Langham ; William Wittlesea ; Simon Sudbury.

Edward, after fruitless, threat-replied-to, expostulation

with the Pope, upon the subject, passed stern measures against the granting, by the Papal See, of "provisions," (*i.e.*, instruments by which persons were thrust into English sees and benefices): of these, the most notable was the

Statute of Provisors, 1344,—of which, the chief *Articles* were

1. The Pope not to appoint to any see, or living, in England.

2. Any one attempting to interfere, by means of a "provision," with any such appointment, to be fined at the King's pleasure, and imprisoned until he renounce such provision.

3. Any one citing the King, or any subject of his, to appear before the Papal Court, to be fined, &c., (as in Article 2).

The Pope protested against this statute, and demanded, from Edward, the vassalage and annual rent agreed upon by King John, whereupon, Parliament passed another Act, declaring John's donation void, as violating his coronation oath and being without consent of Parliament: at the same time, they agreed that they would resist the Pope to the utmost of their power, should he attempt to enforce his demands.

During this reign, rose "the Morning-star of the Reformation,"

John Wicliffe,—who commenced his attacks on the corruptions of Rome by controversy with the now infamous Mendicant Friars, proceeding, thence, to denounce the pretensions of the Pope, and to propound doctrines of a similar character to those of the later Reformers. His views were spread through the country, by means of numbers of his disciples, who, under the title of

"**Poor Priests,**"—traversed, coarsely clad, and barefoot, the land, doing much good to the common people, by their earnest teachings, and truly exemplary humility, amiability, and purity. By their, and his, labors, and by the influence of the Scriptures translated by him, his enemies, even, allowed that one-half the people had become his converts.

He was protected by the powerful John of Gaunt, and the Earl of Northumberland: their patronage enabled him to escape the great danger which beset him, and

aided in rendering him and his teachings popular. His disciples, termed

Lollards, (from Ger. *lollen*=to sing,—because of their fondness for psalm-singing), shared, under Edward, in the toleration extended to their leader.

VARIOUS MATTERS.

St. Stephen's Chapel, (used by the Commons), was finished 1349, and the **Speaker appointed 1376**.

A colony of

Flemings, dissatisfied at home, came over at Edward's desire, and, settling at **Worsted**, (Norfolk), established the **manufacture of woollens**, and of **worsted**, 1327-33.

Blanket weaving was introduced by Thos. Blanket, of Bristol, 1331.

The title of

"Duke" was created, by Edward, who made the Black Prince Duke of Cornwall, 1337.

The motto *"Dieu et Mon Droit,"* was adopted, by Edward, in allusion to his claim on the French Crown: he also, quartered, with his own arms, the Lillies of France.

There broke out, in England, coming from the East through Western Asia, a fearful pestilence, termed the

Black Death, 1349,—which is said to have swept away one-third of the inhabitants of the world: London, alone, lost 50,000. There were, also, two other

Plagues, 1361, 1369.—During these visitations, there were not sufficient men left alive to till the ground. The **Flagellants**, a set of enthusiasts from Hungary, went through the country, whipping themselves till they drew blood, to stay the Plague.

Justices of the Peace were appointed.

"Ich Dien" (from Ger. = *I serve*), is said to have been adopted by the **Black Prince**, (as his motto as Prince of Wales), together with three ostrich feathers, from the King of Bohemia, who fell at Cressy. Others say it is from the Welsh, and signifies *"Your man"*.

Windsor Castle was rebuilt, and enlarged, by William, of Wykeham. The

Order of the Garter was founded, (or, rehabilitated, if, as some maintain, it was originated by Richard I.),

1350: it is said that it originated in Edward's picking up, at a ball, a dropped garter of the Countess of Salisbury, and returning it, saying to some smilers at the action, "*Honi soit qui mal y pense*," (Fr. = "*Evil to him who sees evil in it*"). The Order includes 26 Knights, of whom, the Sovereign and the Prince of Wales are two. The

Incorporation of the great London Guilds of merchants took place: before Edward's death, there were 50 of them in existence.

SCOTCH AFFAIRS.

Bruce, encouraged thereto by the state of weakness into which England was thrown, after the death of Edward III., broke the 13 years' truce, and, with 20,000 men, crossed the Tyne, on a plundering

Incursion into England, 1327.—Edward, with a large force, hastened North to oppose him, but was, by Bruce's skilful manœuvring, prevented from coming to an engagement, and was, himself, nearly captured, whereupon, by Mortimer's influence, there was concluded a disgraceful

Peace, Mar., 1328.

Chief Articles.—1. Scotland to be independent.

2. Robert's son, David, to marry Edward's sister.

3. The Scotch coronation-stone, and *regalia*, to be restored, (a stipulation, the fulfilment of which, popular rage at the treaty prevented).

In 1329, Bruce died, being succeeded by his son, David, (only 6 years old), under a regency.

Soon, some of the nobles, growing discontented with the government, formed a

Plot to place the exile, Edward Balliol, (son of John Balliol), on the throne, the English monarch being privy thereto.

Landing, with a body of supporters, in Scotland, Balliol, joined by his inviters, *gained the great battle of*

Duplin Moor, (near Perth), Aug. 11. 1332,—*Royalist commander* being the Earl of Mar, who lost 13,000. The victory placed the Kingdom in the invaders' hands, enabling Balliol to be crowned at Scone, six weeks after. This revolution involved the country in

WAR WITH ENGLAND, 1332-41: resumed, 1346: resumed, 1347-57.

Origin.—*Edward III.'s supporting the cause of Edward Balliol*, who so disgusted the Scotch patriots, by acknowledging the King of England as his feudal lord, that they, under the

Earl of Moray, surprised and utterly routed **Balliol**, at **Annan**, (Dumfries), **Decr. 16, 1332**,—he, himself, escaping, with difficulty, into England.

Encouraged by this success, the Scots resumed their incursions into the North, whereupon

England declared war.

Events.—**Balliol** having promised to him the transfer of the town and strong fortress of

Berwick,—the place was now *invested*, by **Edward**, being valiantly *defended* by the **Earl of March**, who, however, was so hard pressed that he, finally, agreed to capitulate, unless relieved by a certain day.

The Regent, **Douglas**, after vainly endeavouring to distract the King thence, by ravaging Northumberland, determined to attempt to relieve the town, by attacking the English, which he did, finding them, and engaging them in battle, at

Halidon Hill, (near **Berwick**), **July 19, 1333**.—*English overwhelmingly victorious.*

E. com.—**Edward III.**

S. , —**Sir Archibald Douglas.**

A marsh intervened between the armies, and the Scotch, in wading across, were exposed to such steady and deadly flights from the archers, that they were speedily thrown into hopeless confusion, and completely routed, with greater proportionate slaughter than in any previous battle, **Lennox**, **Ross**, **Carrick**, **Sutherland**, **Athol**, and many other nobles, with 14,000 men, lying on the field dead, and the Regent mortally wounded.

Berwick immediately *surrendered*, **July 20**,—and **David**, with his wife, (**Edward's** sister), went to France, for safety, while

Balliol recovered the Crown.

He, however, ceded to **Edward** the greater portion of the Southern Counties, which so incensed the nation that a

Counter Revolution—in favor of **David**, followed,

issuing in Balliol's losing most of the country, and **Balliol being again driven across the Border.**

Edward continued his alliance with him, and for the succeeding 7 years, his cause prospered, or otherwise, according as England afforded aid or not.

Edward, several times, *made* triumphant

Incursions into Scotland,—but, as soon as he retired, the Scotch patriots again triumphed: this continued until, finally,

Balliol, seeing his cause hopeless, **gave up** the contest, and David returned, to resume the **Crown, 1341.**

The country had been, by the ravages of both friend and foe, reduced to such a fearful condition that, now, a severe and general

Famine,—lasting some years,—broke out: the deer actually came, from their haunts, to the neighbourhood of the towns; while immense numbers of people emigrated.

While Edward was engaged in the French War, the

War was renewed, 1346, by the Scots, instigated by the French monarch, and hoping to profit by the King's absence.

The Scotch monarch, with 50,000 men, entered upon an **Invasion of England**,—ravaging, with fierceness, Northumberland, and Durham.

Animated by the noble Queen, the Northern nobles assembled 15,000 men, and met the invaders in *battle*, at

Neville's Cross, (near Durham), **Oct. 17, 1346.**—*English victorious.*

E. coms.—**Lords Hy. Percy, and Ralph Neville.**

S. „ —**David II.; Earl of Moray.**

The battle was fiercely contested for three hours, but ended in a thorough defeat of the Scots, with the slaughter of 15,000, including De la Haye, (the Constable), Keith, (the Marshal), Chartres, (the Chancellor), Peebles, (the Chamberlain), Moray, Strathern, 30 barons: King David, (who was carried to London), Fife, Monteith, Sutherland, and Wigton, were taken prisoners.

There ensued a brief

Truce,—after which the Scots attacked, and *retook*,

Berwick,—which, however, was *recaptured*, by Edward, *who, entering Scotland*, so terribly wasted the country

with sword and fire, that the period of his harry was termed "**Burnt Candlemas**:" want of provisions, finally, compelled him to retreat, realizing, further, the uselessness of the contest, he allowed

David to be ransomed, for a stipulated sum of £100,000, and to return to the Throne.

CONTEMPORARY SOVEREIGNS.

Scotland.	Germany.	Arragon.
ROBERT (BRUCE) I.	LOUIS IV., and	ALFONSO IV.
DAVID II.	FREDERICK.	PETER IV.
EDWARD (BALLIOL).	LOUIS IV.	
DAVID II.	CHARLES IV.	Popes.
(restored).		JOHN XXII.
ROBERT (STUART) II.	Spain.	BENEDICT XII.
	Castile.	CLEMENT VI.
France.	ALFONSO XI.	INNOCENT VI.
CHARLES IV.	PEDRO, "the	URBAN V.
PHILIP VI.	Cruel."	GREGORY XI.
JOHN II.	HENRY II.	
CHARLES V.		

RICHARD II., ("of Bordeaux").

Dates.—1366, at Bordeaux; June 22, 1377-99. The generally-accepted account, (given out, first, early in 1400, when, also, a body, professedly his, was exposed), is that he was assassinated, or starved, (compulsorily, or voluntarily), at Pontefract Castle, (Yrks.), by Sir Piers Exton. Documents, however, found, of late years, in the Record Office, shew, clearly, that he escaped from Pontefract. What, eventually, became of him has not been discovered: *Tytler* maintains that he refuged in Scotland, and there died, after 20 years' exile.

Descent, &c.—Second son of Edward, the Black Prince, and Joan of Kent,—created Prince of Wales, Duke of Cornwall, and Earl of Chester, on his father's death,—lived, thenceforward, till his accession, with his mother, at the Manor House, Kennington.

Claim.—*Good*,—as next lineal male heir of Edward III., who had a good title.

Married.—1. 1382, Anne, of Bohemia, (daughter of the Emperor Charles IV.), 1367-1394,—at her coronation, obtained pardon for many of the Tilerites, (whence she derived the name “Good Queen Anne”),—introduced the horned head-dress, the pin, and side-saddles,—regarded, by many, as first foster-mother of the Reformation, she and her mother-in-law being protectresses of Wickliffe, (one of her attendants it was who carried Wickliffe’s writings to Huss !), and studying his English New Testament,—did much to heal the ruptures between her husband, and his people, on one occasion obtaining the restoration of its charter to the City of London,—died of the Plague, deeply lamented.

2. 1396, (Eleanor), Isabella, of Valois, (daughter of Charles VI., of France), 1388-1409,—married at Calais, and, from her age, called “the Little Queen,”—on her husband’s becoming prisoner, was removed from place to place, in close custody, and, after his deposition, allowed to return into France, Henry, however, depriving her of her dowry, jewels, and much of her wardrobe, even,—married, in her eighteenth year, the Duke of Orleans, (who was taken at Agincourt),—left an infant daughter, by him.

Issue.—None.

Character.—Of middle height, and slim, elegant figure: effeminately handsome: abrupt in manner, and with an impediment in his speech.

Possessed a clear, penetrating, judgment, with great natural energy, and on some few occasions shewed his ability to apprehend, and master, a crisis; unhappily, the feeble and unworthy so predominated in him as to obscure, and, at last, overwhelm, his native vigor.

Proud, violent, revengeful, vain, frivolous, and finicking: sensuous, and with an intense passion for show and tinsel: fickle, and faithless.

Presents a striking parallel to Edward II., in both character, causes of failure, and despotism: both were weak, *per se*, and fitted for quiet, private life; and were especially unsuited to, and fell, in great measure, victims to, the violent times in which they lived.

WARS.

1. WITH SCOTLAND,—see *Scotch Affairs*.

2. WITH FRANCE, 1377-1394.

Origin.—French attacks on the English coasts,—e.g., the Isle of Wight being ravaged, and Hastings burned.

Events.—Parliament having voted a grant, an Expedition to France was undertaken, led by Lancaster, who, however, only unsuccessfully besieged St. Malo, (Normandy), and returned, 1377.

Brest, and Cherbourg, were, however, ceded to Richard, respectively, by the Duke of Brittany, and Charles, the Bad.

Two other Expeditions, in 1380, were, also, fruitless. Another

Expedition was sent, 1383, to Flanders,—to aid the people of Ghent against their Count, and the French King, his ally, the commander being

Spencer, the fighting Bishop of Norwich, who took Gravelines, by assault, and mastered the coast, but, a French army approaching, he returned to England, to be fined for his retreat.

During the absence of the English army, in Spain, it was determined, by the

French, to attempt, on a grand scale, an

Invasion of England, 1386.—Immense fleets were prepared at Sluys, and in Brittany, to convey 100,000 men, with full equipment, but delays occurred, until it was late in the season, and it then proved too stormy to make the attempt, whereupon, the forces were dismissed. The scheme was revived, 1387, but again fell. Hostilities ended in a

Truce, 1394,—for four years.

On Richard's second marriage,

Brest, and Cherbourg, were restored to France, and an

Armistice, for 25 years, was concluded.

3. (Lancaster's), IN SPAIN, 1386-88.

Origin.—The Duke of Lancaster's claiming the Crown

of Castile,—on the ground of his having married the daughter of Pedro, the Cruel.

Events.—Lancaster, undertook an

Invasion of Castile,—entering the country with 20,000 troops, (mostly English), and gaining several minor successes, but, eventually, agreeing to a

Treaty, 1388,—by which, he abandoned his claim, on condition that his daughter, Constantia, should be espoused by Henry, son of the King of Castile: the marriage took place, and its issue ruled for many generations.

REBELLION.

Wat, the Tiler's, Insurrection, 1381.

Immediate cause.—*The levying*, (in consequence of the Government's being in debt, owing to the heavy demands made by hostilities with France, and Scotland), of a poll-tax on every male and female, save beggars, in the kingdom.

This, however, was but as the spark that fires the mine, the outbreak having, for its

Remoter Origin, the long-brooded-over *injustice and oppression of the lower classes*, the feeling of which, now, owing to a spirit of awakening and progress in the nation, had attained boiling-point, and needed but the least agitation to burst bounds.

Leaders.—Wat, the Tiler; Jack Straw, (a priest, with this assumed name); John Ball, (an excommunicated priest).

Events.—The tax, levied very strictly, was resisted first in Essex, where the people killed the jurors and clerks of the commission of collection, and rose, under "Straw."

Kent, roused by the insult offered, by one of the assessors, to the daughter of a tiler, named Walter, (or Watkin), (who, with his hammer, smote the author of the outrage dead), followed suit.

(Besides these main risings, there were minor riots all over the country, manor-houses being burnt, court-rolls destroyed, and all lawyers encountered either slain, or sworn to oppose all taxes but the old tallage: it is, however, with the first-named rebels that this narrative has to do.)

Wat., being chosen Generalissimo of the rioters, (who speedily united in one band), marched Londonwards, at the head of 100,000 men, whose rage, and communistic desires, were kept in full flame, by the fierce sermons of Ball, whose favorite text,

“ When Adam delved, and Eve span,
Who was then the gentleman ”ⁱ

speedily became the motto of the crowd.

Reaching Blackheath, June 16, the Tiler sought an interview with Richard, and, being disappointed, took a large portion of his followers with him, and marched to London, where he destroyed the Marshalsea, and King's Bench, Prisons, and the Primate's Palace at Lambeth.

Next day, the mob crossed into the City, and continued the work of destruction, in, *e.g.*, the Savoy, the Temple, and Newgate,—and butchered the Flemish artizans, plunder however, being rigidly forbidden.

On the third day, they besieged, and attacked, the Tower, whereupon, *the King*, thinking it time to come forward—*agreed to a*

Meeting, at Mile-end,—to present their *Demands*,—which were

1. Abolition of serfdom.
2. Reduction of land-rent, to 4d. per acre.
3. Liberty to buy, and sell, in all fairs, and markets.
4. A general pardon, for all offences.

The King granted a

Charter,—embodying these points,—but, from some not clearly-explicable cause, the Tiler, instead of retiring, remained in London, with 20,000 followers,—obtained possession of the Tower,—and slew the Archbishop, and other notabilities.

The next day, Richard went forth, with a small retinue, including Walworth, the Lord Mayor, and there ensued a

Meeting, at Smithfield, June 15.—Wat., with his rabble, encountering him. Conversation was entered upon, and, during its course, *Wat.* was seen to toy with his dagger, and make as if he would seize the Royal bridle, whereupon, Walworth stabbed him in the throat, and, he, thereupon, falling from his horse, was quickly *despatched* by one of Richard's squires.

The insurgents, deprived of their leader, were rushing

upon the Royal party, when Richard, with one of his few inspirations of tact and courage, boldly advanced, crying out, "Follow me! I will be a better leader than the traitor Tiler!"

The mob, overawed, and delighted, with his boldness, readily followed him to Ialington, where they soon discovered their error, and his untrustworthiness, for a force, (which he was expecting), strong enough to meet the emergency, made its appearance, and the rebels were glad to be allowed to return home, pardoned, by charter.

The Insurrection being put down, the charters granted the rebels were all revoked, by Parliament, and 1,500 persons were executed, for their share in the rising. At the same time, the Commons declared that the rebellion originated, not in slavery, but in the maladministration of the King, the rapacity of law officers, the injustice of purveyors, the maintainers of suits, and the heavy taxes.

POLITICAL, &c., AFFAIRS.

The young monarch mounted the Throne amidst general rejoicing, and was crowned with unusual pomp and splendor, (July 16).

The day after, there was held a

Great Council,—of prelates, and barons, who appointed a Council of Regency,—12 in number, to assist the Chancellor, and the Treasurer, in the government, during the

Minority of the King,—the Duke of Lancaster, the first prince of the blood, being, to the popular surprise, not included: however, he expressed full concurrence in the arrangement, and quietly withdrew to his castle, at Kenilworth. Parliament, also, resolved that, till Richard came of age, the appointment of the chief Crown officers should rest with themselves,—and that two citizens of London should be treasurers of the money raised for expected war with France.

As he advanced towards manhood, Richard's weak and wayward character clearly developed itself, overturning all the bright hopes that had been cherished concerning him, and, together with the disunion amongst the nobles, and the financial difficulties of the nation, proving the

source of the troubled state of things which issued in the King's deposition.

The young monarch displayed, during these years, a strong antipathy to, and jealousy of, his two uncles, the Dukes of Gloucester, and Lancaster, which feelings were diligently fostered, by two

Favorites, whom he, weakly, took to himself—**De la Pole**, whom he made Earl of Suffolk, and Chancellor; and **De Vere**, created Duke of Ireland. These two made themselves hated by the nobles, and, during Lancaster's absence in Spain, Parliament, at Gloucester's instigation, demanded the dismissal of Suffolk, and his impeachment, on various charges of maladministration. Richard, at first, angrily refused consent, but, on threats being made to depose him, ordered the

Removal, and submitted to the **Impeachment**, of **Suffolk, 1386**: he was convicted of some of the charges, and sentenced to fine, and imprisonment during the King's pleasure. *This prosecution is noteworthy, since it established the Commons' right of impeaching the Crown ministers.*

Soon after this, Richard was induced to entrust the government to a

Commission of Regency, 1387,—with Gloucester at its head, but, speedily repenting of the concession, and galled at being so much in leading-strings, he convened an intended-to-be-private

Assembly of the Judges, at Nottingham,—and obtained from them a declaration that the Commission of Regency was illegal, and that its originators were traitors.

Gloucester, however, learned, by some means, of the meeting, and, supported by the Earls of Arundel, Warwick, Derby, (Henry, of Bolingbroke, son of John of Gaunt), and Nottingham, was soon in arms. This

Rising of the Reforming Nobles was followed by their accusing, of treason, five of the Royal favorites—the Archbishop of York, De Vere, Suffolk, Sir Robert Tresilian, (the Lord Chief Justice), and Sir Nicholas Brembre, (the Mayor), who fled for safety.

De Vere, however, at the King's request, gathered a force, to oppose the nobles, and advanced, with 5,000 men, to, and was defeated, by Gloucester, at,

Radcot Bridge, (Oxfordshire), Dec. 20, 1387,—except-

ing from the field, to Ireland, and, thence, to Flanders, where he died.

Next year, there met, the

"Wonderful," (or, "Merciless"), "Parliament," Feb. 3, 1388,—which *ratified the proceedings of Gloucester*, and his supporters, and condemned to death the five accused, of whom, however, only two—Tresilian, and Brembre,—were taken, and executed.

Richard, under the influence of one of his energetic fits, now determined to break his bonds. Accordingly, he suddenly asked what was his age, of Gloucester, at the Council-board, and being told "Your Highness is in your twenty-second year," cried "Then I must surely be old enough to manage my own concerns," and—the Council being too surprised to offer any opposition—*assumed the Government*, May, 1389, and issued a

Proclamation, to that effect. Gloucester was removed from the Council, but not further molested. The

Government, after Richard's assumption of power,—was carried on calmly, and quietly, for some years, during which, great power, was gradually, secured by the Duke of York, and the Earl of Derby.

The second marriage of the King aroused the nobles of Gloucester's party, anew, to opposition, which so enraged the King, that, secure in an obedient Parliament, he determined on crushing them. Accordingly,

Gloucester was seized, and conveyed to Calais, 1397, where he soon after died, by foul means, though it was given out that the cause was apoplexy. Warwick, and Arundel, were, also, taken: the latter was executed, and the former, shewing a submissive spirit, sentenced to life-imprisonment: the Primate was banished. Next year, a

Parliament met, at Shrewsbury, and reversed the acts of the "Wonderful Parliament," 1398.

Two only of the reforming nobles, (or "Lords appellant"), remained—Derby, (who was created Duke of Hereford), and Nottingham, (now made Duke of Norfolk).

They, chancing to converse about their share in the reforming business, (and, specially, in the Radcot Bridge *affair*), expressed to one another mutual fears that the *King would yet*, in spite of his profession of pardon

and favor, bring them to book. This having reached his ears, Richard demanded of Norfolk an account of their discourse, which, being afforded, Hereford warmly repudiated it, as false, and accused Norfolk of perjuring himself: both maintaining their respective accounts, the decision of the dispute was referred to wager of battle, a

Combat being arranged, between the two nobles, at Coventry, Sep. 1398. When, however, they were about to engage, Richard stopped them, and sentenced

Norfolk, and Hereford, to be banished,—the former for life, and the latter for ten years. Having, thus, rid himself of the last of his opponents,

Richard was almost absolute.

His security, however, led him to acts of tyranny that sealed his ruin,—*viz.*, raising money by forced loans; prescribing to the judges how they should interpret the laws; requiring Gloucester's adherents to purchase pardon, over and over again; and, (in order to procure abundant fines), putting 17 counties, at once, out of protection of the Law, under pretence of their having aided his enemies, at Radcot Bridge.

These proceedings, naturally, excited the national discontent, learning which, Hereford determined to take advantage thereof to overthrow Richard, and mount the Throne. The exile had, three months after his banishment, become, by the death of his father, Duke of Lancaster, but had been refused possession of the paternal estates, which the King had seized, thereby affording him a pretext for returning, before the completion of his sentence.

Taking advantage of Richard's absence in Ireland,

Lancaster, hiring, in Brittany, three small vessels, sailed for England, (where his friends were prepared to support him), with a few followers, and **landed at Ravenspur**, (Yrks.), July 4, 1399, being, at once, joined by his confederates, the Earls of Northumberland, and Westmoreland.

Giving out that his sole purpose, in coming, was to recover his estates, and reform abuses, he was, speedily, at the head of 60,000 men, with whom he marched, first to London, where he was warmly welcomed, and, then, into the West, where the Duke of York, left, by Richard, Regent, had retired. A conference between York, and his nephew, issued in the former's adhesion, whereupon the two pro-

ceeded to, and together entered, Bristol, its Castle surrendering, and three of the King's most hated favorites, who had sheltered therein—the Earl of Wiltshire, Bushy, and Green, were, without regular trial, executed. Lancaster, then, proceeded to Chester.

Richard did not learn the state of affairs, till a fortnight after the landing, and, even then, lingered some time at Dublin. At last, however, he crossed to Milford, with some thousands of troops, early in August. His forces, however, deserted him, and he hastened to Conway, where he expected to be joined by the Earl of Salisbury, with an army, which, however, he, on arrival, found to be only 100 strong, whereupon, he took refuge in Conway Castle.

On discovering his place of retreat, Lancaster, by the crafty instrumentality of Northumberland, drew the monarch to Flint Castle, and, there meeting him, declared that, as they complained of having been ill-governed for 20 years, he had come to help to rule the people better, to which the King replied that it pleased him well.

Speedily, however, he found out his true position. He was conducted to Chester, (where writs for a new Parliament were issued, in his name), and thence, to London, which he entered in mean guise, and amidst contumely and abuse, with his cousin, riding, royally and triumphantly, by his side. After a day allowed him in his palace, he was committed to the Tower, till Parliament should decide his fate.

Lancaster, now, made no secret of his pretensions to the Throne, and, Parliament being devoted to his interests, he found no difficulty in attaining his purpose.

Richard, compelled by circumstances, declared, in the Hall of the Tower, in presence of the Peers, some citizens of London and elsewhere, and Lancaster, (who brought the company thither for the purpose), that he freely abdicated in favour of his cousin, Sep. 29.

The next day, in Westminster Hall, Parliament met, and the

King was formally impeached, on 33 charges, of which the *main*

Articles—were that he had

1. *Caused Gloucester's murder.*
2. *Revoked the pardons granted to the Duke, and his adherents.*

3. Indulged in despotic measures, since the dissolution of Parliament.

He was declared "Guilty," and sentenced to be deposed; his resignation was, then, read, amidst loud acclamations,—the Throne was declared vacant,—and, upon rising, and making solemn claim,

Henry, of Lancaster, was recognized King, Sep. 30, 1399.

The new sovereign now asked the advice of Parliament, as to the disposal of the deposed monarch, and, they recommending that he should be confined in some secure place, he was remitted to Pontefract Castle.

ECCLESIASTICAL, &c., AFFAIRS.

Primates.—Simon Sudbury; William Courtenay; Thomas Arundel.

The provisions against Papal aggression were greatly strengthened, by many measures, especially by the

Statute of Præmunire, (so called, from its initial words, "*Præmunire facias A. B.*"—i.e., "*See that you forewarn A. B.*"), 1392, enacts that whoever should procure at Rome, or elsewhere, any Bull, or other Papal instrument, against the King or his realm, or should aid therein, should be put out of the Royal protection, forfeit his lands and goods, and be brought to answer, for his offence, before the King, and Council.

VARIOUS MATTERS.

Bills of Exchange were first used.

Peers were first created by Patent. The

Royal Champion, (whose function is to challenge any to dispute the monarch's claim), first acted, at Richard's coronation.

Westminster Hall was rebuilt. The

Court of Chancery, as a court of equity, originated,—its earliest function being to enforce *uses*, (contracts devised by the clergy, to enrich themselves, in spite of Mortmain). The Common Law Courts did not recognize these contracts, and, accordingly, the Chancellors, (who were ecclesiastics), adopted the practice of subpening any would-be evaders of *uses*.

SCOTCH AFFAIRS.

The Scots, resuming hostilities, took Berwick, 1379,—but *it was*, almost immediately, recovered.

Aided by 1000 troops, sent by the French monarch, the Scots entered upon an

Inroad into the North, 1385. An

INVASION OF SCOTLAND,—by Richard, with 80,000 men, was the speedy sequel, and, no opposition being offered, Edinburgh, Dunfermline, Perth, and Dundee, were burned. Meanwhile, the

Scots ravaged

Westmoreland, and Cumberland,—and Richard was urged to cut off their retreat, but, listening to the counter-opinion of De la Pole, left them alone, returning, soon after, to England.

Border warfare was rife during the rest of the reign, and was signalized by the *fight of*

Otterburne, ("Chevy Chase,") (Northumberland), Aug. 10, 1388.—*Scots victorious.*

S. com.—Earl of Douglas, (slain).

E. „ —Lord Henry Percy, (taken prisoner).

IRISH AFFAIRS.

Richard visited Ireland, 1394,—with 4,000 knights, and 30,000 archers, and remained 9 months, giving the most magnificent and sumptuous entertainments, of all kinds.

Roger Mortimer, Earl of March, the Lieutenant, was slain, in a skirmish with the natives, whereupon,

Richard, (who was his cousin), crossed to Ireland, to avenge his death, and conducted a resultless campaign, 1399, (giving, by his absence, Lancaster the opportunity he wanted to return to England).

CONTEMPORARY SOVEREIGNS.

Scotland.	Spain.	Popes.
ROBERT (Stuart) II.	Castile.	GREGORY XI.
ROBERT III.	JOHN I.	URBAN VI.
France.	HENRY III.	BONIFACE IX.
CHARLES V.		BENEDICT XIII.
CHARLES VI.	Aragon.	
Germany.	PETER IV.	
CHARLES IV.	JOHN I.	
WENCESLAUS.	MARTIN I.	

House of Lancaster.

HENRY IV., ("of Bolingbroke.")

Dates.—1366, at Bolingbroke, (Lincoln); Sep. 30, 1399-1413, March 20, at Westminster, of apoplexy, (or, epilepsy), being fatally seized, after some weeks' intermittent attacks, while praying before the tomb of the Confessor, in Westminster Abbey, and dying in Jerusalem Chamber.

Descent, &c.—Son of John, of Gaunt; and of Blanche of Lancaster, (descended from Edmund, of Lancaster, second son of Henry III.),—created, by Richard II., Earl of Derby, and, then, Duke of Hereford,—served, in his younger days, against the Mohammedans, in Barbary, and the Pagans, in the Baltic.

(*His part in political affairs, under Richard II., has been already narrated, and must be here supplied, in sketching his life.*)

Claim.—*Bad*, until legalized by Parliament, (which was done by Richard's deposition, and by acknowledging Henry's son, heir-apparent).

Henry claimed on three grounds:—

1. Descent,—alleging that Edmund, of Lancaster, was older than his brother, Edward I., and, therefore, rightful sovereign, but had been passed over, on account of bodily deformity: this, however, was mere assertion, without shadow of proof.

2. Expediency.

3. Conquest.

Parliament, however, did not pronounce any decision on these points.

The rightful heir, at Richard's deposition, was a boy of about 10, Edmund Mortimer, Earl of March, great-grandson of Lionel, of Clarence, (see Genealogical Table, at end of book).

It is, however, to be remembered, in estimating whether, or not, Henry was a usurper, that, when the line of succession is broken, by the deposition of the reigning prince, there rests upon Parliament no obligation to fill his place with the nearest heir. "A revolution of this kind seems to defeat, and confound, all prior titles," (*Hallam*).

Married.—1. Mary de Bohun, (daughter, and co-heiress, of the Earl of Hereford), *d.* 1394.

2. 1403, Joanna, or Jane, (daughter of Charles, the Bad, King of Navarre, and widow of John V., of Brittany), *d.* 1437.—It was during his exile that Henry made her acquaintance, at the court of her husband, whose decease, in the year of Henry's accession, left her Regent of Brittany. Two years later, she made Henry an offer, which he accepted.

The union was unpopular, owing to her caring more for Brittany, and foreigners, than for her husband's people, and land.

After Henry's death, she was Regent of England while the new King fought in France, and was fated to see her own son, (Duke of Brittany), fight against England, and to lose many relatives at, or behold them prisoners after, Agincourt. Soon after, she was arrested, on a charge of sorcery, deprived of her property, and confined in Peversey Castle, till the King's death.

Issue, (by Mary, only),—Henry V.; Thomas, Duke of Clarence, (killed, at Beaujé, 1421); John, Duke of Bedford, *d.* 1435; Humphrey, Duke of Gloucester, *d.* 1447; Blanche, *m.* Duke of Bavaria; Philippa, *m.* Eric IX., of Denmark.

Character.—Of medium height; of massive, stern, features; strong, and perfect in military and athletic exercises.

Bold, active, and watchful—in the field, and the Cabinet.

Hard, and severe, (owing, greatly, to the constant

opposition he had to encounter); miserly: not without magnanimity.

Superstitious in the extreme, and, (from policy), a bigot, and persecutor.

WARS.

1. WITH SCOTLAND,—see “*Scotch Affairs.*”

2. WITH FRANCE, 1403, &c.

Origin.—Charles’s anger against Henry, for keeping the dowry of Isabella, Richard II.’s poor Queen-Dowager,—and dissatisfaction, generally, with the change in England.

Events.—Without formally declaring war, Charles lent aid to the Scots and Welsh, and the

Princes of France, with a large squadron, inflicted severe Ravages on the Isle of Wight, and other parts of the coast,—and burned

Tenby, and Plymouth, 1403.—The system of depredation, together with the carrying off of English merchant ships by French privateers, continued with great loss, and injury, to the English, year by year: the King, himself, in crossing the Thames’ mouth, was attacked, by a body of these marauders, and almost captured.

3. IN FRANCE, 1411-12.

Origin.—Henry’s taking part in the Quarrel between the Burgundians, (or, Armagnacs), and Orleanists.

Charles having fallen imbecile, these two Dukes entered upon a factious strife for the possession of the Government. Orleans was assassinated, 1407, and succeeded by his son, who married, first, Richard II.’s (supposed) widow, and at her death, one of the family of Armagnac, (whence his faction derived one of its names).

Events.—Both parties sought the aid of Henry, who sided, at first, with the Burgundians, and sent some troops to their aid, 1411,—but, being promised, by the leaders on the other side, recognition as Duke of Aquitaine, and other advantages, he went over to the Orleanists, the next year.

In a short time, the factions composed their differences, and were able to turn their united forces against the English, without, however, any success, for the Duke of

Clarence, with a large force, undertook an

INVASION OF NORMANDY, 1412,—*and*, being joined by fresh forces from Guienne, *overran*, and plundered, **Maine, and Anjou**,—Eventually, the

War ended, 1412,—by the Duke of Orleans buying Henry off, for 200,000 crowns.

4. WITH WALES, 1401—throughout the reign.—An account of this, as far as connected with the Insurrection of Glendower, &c., is given under "Plots," &c.

From 1403, onwards,

Glendower, aided by France, *maintained the contest*, and his independence. His son,

Griffith, was, however, *defeated*, by Prince Henry, at Grosmont, (Monmouth), 1405.

PLOTS, AND REBELLIONS,

Were very numerous, during the reign, in consequence of the disfavour in which numbers of the nobility, and the people, generally, held Henry.

1. Plot of (several) Nobles, to murder Henry, at Oxford, during a tournament, 1399.

The conspiracy was discovered, by treachery, and its leaders were executed.

2. Rebellion, 1401-3.

Chiefs.—Owen Glendower, (great-grandson of Llewellyn); Duke of Northumberland, and his son, Henry Percy, (called, from his reckless valor, "Hotspur"); the Earl of Worcester; Scrope, Archbishop of York; and Earl Douglas.

Origin.—After the deposition of Richard II., Lord Grey of Ruthin, one of the Marchers, *seized a portion of Glendower's lands*, and the latter, having, first, vainly petitioned Parliament, took up arms, which, on Henry's sending assistance to Grey, were turned against the King, 1401. The

Cause of the Percys', &c., joining—will appear in due place.

Glendower, applying force to recover his lands, Henry sent assistance to Grey, whereupon, the people of Wales, generally, rose, in support of their great chief, even the Welsh students, and laborers, in England, hastening home, *thence*, to take part in the fray.

Grey, hopelessly outnumbered, was defeated, and cap-

tured,—the lost possessions were recovered,—and the Marches swarmed with ravaging hordes.

Henry, now, sent against the rebels, another force, under Sir Edmund Mortimer, who was *defeated*, and captured, by Glendower, at

Knyghton, (Radnor), June 12, 1402.

The captive's sister being Hotspur's wife, *the Percys* asked, and *were refused*, permission to ransom Mortimer, *which, and the King's forbidding them*, later on, to put Douglas, &c., to ransom, (see "*Scotch Affairs*"), proved the culminating point of a mass of discontent, on the part of the Duke of Northumberland, his son, and his brother (Worcester), and *led them* to determine to join Glendower, 1403.

Hotspur, journeying into Wales, under pretence of effecting the liberation of Mortimer, (who cemented the presently-formed league, by marrying the Welsh chief's daughter), arranged with Glendower a plan of united operation, while, in the North, the elder Percy collected troops.

Scrope, and Douglas, (obtaining his freedom on condition of aiding, with a body of Scotch knights), *joined the revolt*.

The Percy contingent, when ready, strengthened, on the way, by the Cheshire archers, under Worcester, marched towards Wales, to effect a junction with Glendower.

Henry had assembled an army, and was advancing North, when news of the westward course of the enemy, turned him Waleswards, with the issue of meeting them in battle, at

Shrewsbury, July 21, 1403.—*Royalists victorious.*

R. com.—Henry IV.; Henry, Prince of Wales.

Rebel coms.—Lord Henry Percy; Earl of Worcester Earl Douglas.

The rebels were obliged to engage without the all-essential support of Glendower, (whom Severn floods prevented from accomplishing the junction), but, nevertheless, made such a gallant fight, as to render this *one of the most obstinate and bloody battles in our annals*: the loss of the vanquished was 5,000,—that of the victors, little less.

Percy fell, and Worcester, and Douglas, were taken,—the former being beheaded, and the latter treated with all respect, as a foreign captive of rank.

Northumberland was on his way, after his son, with reinforcements, but, learning the issue of the battle, returned home. Henry allowed him to go, this time, scot-free.

3. Plot, to place the Earl of March on the Throne, 1405.

Chiefs.—Northumberland; Mowbray, Earl of Nottingham; Archbishop Scrope.

The scheme signally failed, owing to want of concert between the leaders, of whom Nottingham, and Scrope, (being seized, by stratagem, by Ralph Neville, Earl of Westmoreland), were taken, and executed, (the first instance of an English prelate so dying), and Northumberland escaped into Scotland.

4. Insurrection, 1408.

Object.—To subvert the Government, the occasion being the general discontent at the heavy subsidies exacted.

Chief.—Northumberland,—who, for the purpose, quitted his Scotch retreat.

Having assembled a force, he took the field, and was encountered, *defeated*, and slain, at

Bramham Moor, (Yorks.), Feb. 18, 1408, by sir Thomas Rokesby.

The failure of these attempts fixed Henry, more and more firmly, on the Throne.

STATUTES, (not mentioned elsewhere).

31 Articles were passed, receiving Henry's assent, 1407,—by which, *inter alia*,

1. He was to choose 16 councillors, and be guided entirely by them, they not be removeable, unless for misdemeanour.

2. No grants were to be made, by Chancellor, and Privy Seal, against the Law.

3. The King's revenue was to be appropriated wholly to his household expenses, and paying his debts.

Statutes regulating Purveyance were reëffirmed.

ECCLESIASTICAL, &c., AFFAIRS.

Primate.—Thomas Arundel.

Henry, anxious to gain the support of the powerful

clergy, promised, at his accession, to maintain the rights and liberties of the Church, and, in fulfilment, lent his sanction to the

PERSECUTION OF THE LOLLARDS,—by passing the cruel

Statute "De Heretico Comburendo," (Lat. = "*concerning heretic-burning*"), 1401,—which, after a *pre-
amble*—

Declaring that "people of a new sect do perversely and wickedly teach divers new doctrines and heretical opinions, and make unlawful conventicles, and make and write books, and keep schools, and wickedly instruct people, and excite and stir them to sedition and insurrection, and do perpetrate enormities horrible to be heard"—*enacted that*

If any person convicted of "such preachings, doctrines, opinions, schools, and misinformations" should "refuse to abjure," or, after abjuration, "be proved to have relapsed," "the sheriff of the county, or the mayor and bailiffs of the nearest borough, shall . . . receive the person so condemned into custody, and cause him to be burned, in a high place, before the people, that such punishment may strike terror into the minds of others."

Speedily, the flames received a victim, *the first English martyr*, in the person of

William Sawtre, (or Salter), a London clergyman, who was burned, at Smithfield, 1401, for refusing to worship the Cross, and denying Transubstantiation,—for the latter of which offences,

John Badby, a tailor, (or, mechanic), also, was burned, 1410.

Henceforth, there was an almost unbroken succession of martyrs up to the time of the Reformation.

VARIOUS MATTERS.

The

Order of the Bath, (so called because, on entering it, its knights bathed, in token of pure loyalty), was instituted, by Henry, at his Coronation.

Cannon, in England, are first mentioned in connection with Henry's besieging Berwick, 1405. A great **Plague**, 1407,—carried off 30,000.

SCOTCH AFFAIRS.

Henry's claim was not acknowledged by Robert III., whence came

WAR WITH ENGLAND, 1400-2, Henry determining on an

Invasion of Scotland, 1400,—to compel Robert's homage.

He met with no opposition, and advanced as far as Leith, but was compelled, by want of provisions, to return. The Scots retorted, by an

Invasion of England, 1402,—which led to the *battle of*

Nesbit Moor, (Northumberland), June 22, 1402.—*English victorious.*

E. com.—Earl of March.

S. „ —Hepburn, of Hales.

Later on, the same year, there was another and more formidable

Invasion of England, by 10,000 men, under Earl Douglas, who, after ravaging the North, was returning home, heavily spoil-laden, when he was attacked in rear, by the Percys, and compelled to *battle*, at

Homildon Hill, (Northumberland), Sep. 14, 1402,—*English victorious.*

E. coms.—Earl of Northumberland; Lord Henry Percy; Earl of March.

S. coms.—Earl Douglas; Murdoch, (son of the Duke of Albany).

800 Scots were left dead on the field, and numbers were drowned, while endeavouring to cross the Tweed. Douglas, and many other nobles, with 80 knights, were taken. These, their captors desired, according to custom, to put to ransom, which Henry, (desiring to retain them, in order to make a favourable peace with Scotland), forbade them to do.

Robert, having lost his heir, through the cruelty of some of his nobles, determined, (for safety's sake), to send his remaining son,

Prince James, to France: the ship was, however, captured, 1405, and he was brought to London, where, (Robert dying next year, and his brother, Albany, who,

then, became Regent, being only too well pleased at the youth's absence), he remained, prisoner, till 1424, when he returned home, to become James I., of Scotland.

CONTEMPORARY SOVEREIGNS.

Scotland.	Spain.	Popes.
ROBERT III.	Castile.	BENEDICT XIII.
JAMES I.	HENRY III.	INNOCENT VII.
France.	JOHN II.	GREGORY XII.
CHARLES VI.	Arragon.	ALEXANDER V.
Germany.	MARTIN I.	JOHN XXIII.
WENCESLAUS.	FERDINAND, of Sicily.	
FREDERICK.		
RUPERT.		
JOSSUS.		
SIGISMUND.		

HENRY V., ("of Monmouth").

Dates.—Aug. 9, 1388, at Monmouth ; Mar. 21, 1413-1422, Aug. 31, at Vincennes, of pleurisy, (under which he had long labored) ; on his death-bed, he repeated the *Penitential Psalms*, and, at the words, "Thou shalt build up the walls of Jerusalem," declared it had been his hope to have delivered Palestine. His body was brought over, and buried at Westminster, where, for 100 years after, tapers were continually burning, before his tomb.

Descent, &c.—Eldest son of Henry IV.,—educated at Queen's College, Oxford, under Cardinal Beaufort,—created Prince of Wales, Duke of Cornwall, Earl of Chester, and Duke of Aquitaine and Lancaster—and made, by Parliament, heir-apparent, on the accession of his father,—took part in the battle of Shrewsbury, (where he was severely wounded, in the face), and, afterwards, spent some years in carrying on the war against Glendower,—immensely popular, during his princehood—so much so that his father removed him from the Council, (at which he presided), on the ground that he had demanded the Regency, when the King was ill : indeed, some assert that he actually aspired to the Crown. He is (probably incorrectly) represented, by the older historians, (and by Shakespeare), as pursuing, before his accession, a career of wildest debauchery, and riot,

in company of a band of depraved associates, (for committing one of whom to prison, he is reported to have struck Gascoigne, the Chief Justice, and to have been, for this act, himself sent to jail, his father rejoicing at having a judge so faithful, and a son so obedient, to the Law)—but to have turned over an entirely new leaf, on his father's death, dismissing all his roystering friends, and choosing the best and wisest in the State, (including Gascoigne), as his advisers. This account, however, seems incredible, being utterly at variance with the fact of his active, continuous, civil and military service.

Claim.—*Bad, by descent, the right heir, at his accession, and throughout his reign, being Edmund Mortimer, Earl of March.*—*Good, by Act of Parliament, which had, at his father's accession, declared him heir-apparent.*

Married.—1420, Catherine, of Valois, (1401-1438), daughter of Charles VI., of France, and of Isabella, (by whom she, and the other Royal children, were shamefully neglected, being kept almost naked, and half-starved, the servants, themselves wageless, giving them what little they had to eat),—demanded, in marriage, by Henry, when he came to the Throne, but refused to him, then, owing to the extravagance of his other proffered conditions,—betrothed, after the fall of Rouen, and married immediately, at Troyes, coming over to England, and being crowned, a few months after,—left in England, by Henry, when he went over to take charge of affairs in France, but joined him there, after their son's birth,—a year after her first husband's death, again married, to Owen Tudor, a Welsh officer in the army, then on duty at Windsor, the union being concealed, (spite of the birth, thence, of three sons—Edmund, Jasper, and Owen), for some years, but, finally, being divulged, whereupon, she was separated from her children, and shut up, in Bermondsey Nunnery, where she died, soon after.

(Her husband, also, was confined, for a time, but, eventually, was released, and made Keeper of the Royal Parks, at Denbigh : he fell into the hands of the Yorkists, at Mortimer's Cross, and was, by them, beheaded.—Of her sons, by him, Edmund became Earl of Richmond, and died, *æt.* 20, leaving, by his wife, the heiress of Somerset, a son, *Henry (VII.)*.)—Jasper became Earl of Pembroke,—Owen turned monk.)

Issue.—Henry VI.

Character.—Tall, slight, and agile : of engaging aspect, and great, yet dignified, affability.

As a ruler, wise, firm, impartial, and possessed of extraordinary powers of controlling, and winning over, by his rare address.

A hero in personal courage, and daring,—and a consummate disciplinarian, tactician, and commander.

Chivalrously clement, and romantically generous, (*e.g.*, releasing the Earl of March, the rightful heir, whom Henry IV. had kept in confinement,—and recalling, and restoring to his father's estates, Hotspur's exiled heir); but hasty, and arrogant : of iron will : immoderately ambitious.

Temperate : devotional, and lavish in support of the Church, and all charitable objects.

Altogether, one of the noblest and most gifted of our monarchs, and, while he lived, idolized to a degree never, perhaps, attained by any English sovereign. His reign is, it is true, almost barren of real good, and his renown, and popularity sprang, (as far as deeds are concerned), from his military achievements, alone, but there is little doubt that had his life been spared, his record would have been, on the highest and best grounds, unsurpassable in splendor, while the terrible Wars of the Roses would, almost certainly, never have devastated the country.

WARS.**1. WITH FRANCE, 1415-22,—(continuing under Hy. VI.)**

Origin.—Henry's reviving Edward III.'s claim to the French Crown.

France was, just now, wretched, helpless, and distracted, owing to the insanity of Charles VI., and to the consequent struggles, for the mastery, between the Burgundians, and the Armagnacs.

Allured by this state of things, Henry brought forward the old claim, (which, he declared, was vested in him), 1415, offering, however, to resign it, on condition that

1. There were ceded to him the full sovereignty of Normandy, Anjou, Maine, Guienne, and the towns and counties named in the Treaty of Bretigny.

2. King John's ransom arrears were paid.

3. The Princess Catherine were given him, to wife, with 2,000,000 crowns dowry.

The outrageous demand to give up half the country, was refused, by the French Government, but, for the sake of peace, it offered to restore Aquitaine, as it formerly belonged to England, and to give Henry, Catherine, with 800,000 crowns.

His proposals being refused, Henry prepared for war, allying himself with the Emperor, the King of Arragon, and other princes.

Events.—Joining his forces, at Portsmouth, Henry—after a short detention, caused by the Plot to dethrone him, (narrated hereafter)—sailed from Southampton, with 30,000 men, July, 1415.

Landing, he at once formed the *siege of*

Harfleur, Aug.-Sep., 1415.—*English victorious.*

E. com.—**Henry V.**

F. coms.—**Sire d'Estouteville ; Sire de Gaucourt.**

The place *capitulated*, **Sep. 22**, after five weeks' siege; which cost the English half their forces, in killed, and victims to dysentery, which prostrated the majority of those left.

Henry, (after—it is said—challenging, to single combat, the Dauphin, who sent back, in derision, a load of tennis-balls—as a hint that the young King was better adapted for sports, than war), thus weakened, resolved to return, by Calais, (rejecting the prudent advice of some who would have had him retire quietly, by sea, to England), and, accordingly, despatching the sick, across, by sea, set himself to cross the same ford that Edward III. had done. He was, thus, compelled to ascend the Somme, seeking a passage, but, the enemy having broken down the bridges, found no ford, before reaching Nesle, 24 miles above Amiens, where he, accordingly, crossed, Oct. 20, continuing his march, on the other side, for four days longer, and, then, halting, near the plain of Agincourt.

Meanwhile, the French leaders had brought out the Oriflamme, and assembled, (it is said), 100,000 men, who were posted between Henry, and Calais, to intercept his course, thus compelling the invaders, with odds against them of 7 to 1, to the battle, (a striking counterpart, in many respects, to Cressy), of

Agincourt, (Picardy), Oct. 25, 1415.—*English grandly victorious.*

E. com.—Henry V.

F. „ —Charles d' Albret, (Constable of France).

The night preceding the fight, which was dark, and rainy, was spent, by the English, in arm-preparing, and prayer, and by the French, in dicing, with the ransoms of the confidently-reckoned-upon English prisoners-to-be, as stakes!

In the morning, the two armies were drawn up in battle-order, each in three divisions, with the archers in front,—the English, however, being but four deep, while the French files were thirty.

Several hours now passed without a movement, but, at last, the English received orders to charge.—The archers, thereupon, threw off their outer garments, advanced, planted long stakes in the ground, ran forward, discharging flights such as Englishmen, alone, then could, and, then, retreated, behind the pikes. A body of the enemy, 800 strong, was hurled against the formidable bowmen, but was unable to face them, and, falling back, carried confusion into their own ranks, whereupon, the archers, quitting their proper weapon, for sword and battle-axe, charged furiously, completing the overthrow of the enemy's first division.

Henry, himself, now led his men-at-arms against the second division of the French, and broke it, after a sanguinary fight of two hours, whereupon, the third line fled, in panic, and an almost unexampled victory was won for England, the glory of the day, however, being sullied by a slaughter of thousands of prisoners, on a false alarm of a French attack on the English rear.

During the fight, Henry was engaged with the Duke d'Alençon, who, with one blow, cut off part of the Crown, (which the King wore), and was about to follow this up by a second, (and sure-to-be fatal), stroke, when he was slain.

The enemy lost, in slain, 120 princes, and nobles—7 of them near relatives of Charles; 8,000 knights and esquires; and thousands of common soldiers,—while the captives not slaughtered included the Dukes of Orleans, and Bourbon, and Counts Eu, Vendôme, and Richemont.

Of this memorable battle, it has been well said. "*They will speak of it as long as England's history endures, as*

one of the most wonderful examples of bravery, and fortitude, and heroic daring, of which a people may be justly proud. But, they will also speak of it as a fearful sacrifice of human life to a false ambition, which had no object beyond the assertion of an indomitable will, and no permanent results beyond the perpetuation of hatred and jealousy between nation and nation."

Henry, after the battle, marched, without hindrance, on to Calais, and, thence, sailed for England, entering London (after little more than three months' absence!) : he was hailed with the wildest joy, the people of Dover actually wading into the sea, and carrying him ashore, in their arms !

The fearful reverse of Agincourt did not unite the two French factions, who committed, mutually, the most horrible atrocities, while their country lay helpless. A feeble attempt was, however, made to recover

Harfleur,—but failed.

Burgundy, now, made overtures of support, to Henry, which being, naturally, accepted, sealed the fate of France.

The English monarch, determining upon a new campaign, with a view to lasting conquest, assembled a larger, and more efficient, army than before, and sailed from Southampton, July, 1417, landing near Harfleur. Fortress, after fortress, speedily fell into his hands, and

Caen was taken, *by storm*,—whereupon, all the towns in the district submitted, and Henry, well satisfied, went into winter quarters, at Caen, where he held Court.

Next spring, receiving a 15,000-strong reinforcement, the King divided his army, and one portion proceeded to form the *siege* of

Rouen, Aug. 1418-19, Jan. 19.—*English victorious.*

E. com.—**Henry V.**

Fr. coms.—Various—the most active being Alain Blanchard, (Captain of the city militia), who, on surrender, was executed !

The other wing of the **English** army, meanwhile, took **Cherbourg**.

Henry, now, threatened Paris, whereupon, Burgundy concluded a

Truce,—but, as the King continued to demand the ful-

filment of the Treaty of Bretigny, the negotiations were broken off.

At this juncture, the Dauphin, treacherously, sought an interview, (professedly, to concert measures, on behalf of France, against Henry), with Burgundy, at the Bridge of Montereau, at which, the Duke, and his attendants, were assassinated. To avenge this deed, Philip le Bon, son of the murdered man, at once offered the Crown to Henry, and, speedily, negotiations issued in the

Treaty of Troyes, (or, "Perpetual Peace"), 1420.

Articles.—Henry to

1. Marry Catherine.

2. Become Regent, during the remainder of Charles's reign.

3. Succeed Charles, on the French Throne.

Henry, and Catherine were, at once, united, and entered Paris in triumph.

The treaty of Troyes shut the Dauphin, (Charles—afterwards VII.), out from the succession, but the central provinces, with Languedoc, Poitou, and Dauphiné, adhered to him: accordingly, hostilities continued, and, two days after his marriage, Henry with his wife, set out for the *siege of*

Sens,—which *fell*, with, in quick succession, many other towns, whereupon, the victorious young groom took home his bride, leaving as Regent in Normandy, his brother, Clarence, who rashly *entered upon an*

Invasion of Anjou, and was surprised into the *battle of Beaujé, Mar., 1421.—French victorious.*

F. coms.—Sire la Fayette; Earl of Buchan, (in command of a body of Scots mercenaries, serving with the French).

E. com.—Thomas, Duke of Clarence, (slain).

On hearing of this disaster, the English monarch, once more, crossed to France, and re-took the field, with King James of Scotland, as one of his captains, (hoping by this, and a promise to speedily release him, to detach the Scots from the French ranks.)

After several minor successes,

Henry formed the siege of

Meaux,—a strong place—which, after seven months' heroic resistance, *fell*, May, 1422, after the English had

suffered great loss, from sickness. This was Henry's last achievement of importance.

He had started to relieve

Cosne, which was besieged, by the Dauphin, when the complaint which laid him low took so serious a form, that he was compelled to abandon his design, and was carried back to Vincennes, helpless. Arriving there, he, before he died, summoned Bedford, and his friends round him, and, solemnly committed to them the interests of his infant son. At his death,

Henry was master of nearly all France North of the Loire.

Of *his right to the French Crown*—it is to be noted that it *was nil*: his claim professed to be a revival of that of Edward III.,—but this has, previously, been shewn to have been worthless, whence Henry's was infinitely more so, for he was not even Edward III.'s representative, and heir. Of course, "the flagitious provisions" of the Treaty of Troyes "were absolutely invalid."

LOTS.

1. To depose Henry, in favour of the Earl of March, 1415.

Chiefs.—Richard, Earl of Cambridge, (who had married Anne, March's sister), Lord Scrope, and Sir Thomas Grey.

The conspiracy was discovered, just as Henry was about to sail for France: his departure being stayed, the conspirators were tried, condemned, and executed, within a few days.

2. Oldcastle's, (if Plot it were),—see "Ecclesiastical, &c., Affairs."

ECCLESIASTICAL, &c., AFFAIRS.

Primates.—Thomas Arundel; Henry Chicheley. The *Persecution of the Lollards*—continued, Henry, who was strongly opposed thereto, (and had, when Prince of Wales, consorted with the sect, whom his father protected), consenting only when it was, (falsely), represented to him, by the clergy, that the unfortunate people were *political agitators*—rebels.

Amongst the Lollards, was

Sir John Oldcastle, in right of his wife, Lord Cobham, a former intimate companion, (it is said), of Henry, (when Prince of Wales).

This man's name having been presented to him, for prosecution, Henry, after a vain attempt to convert him, ordered his arrest: he was taken, and *condemned*, to death, but the King, (anxious to save him), granted him 50 days' respite, during which he *managed to escape*, 1413, from the Tower, and effectually hide himself.

The Lollards, alarmed at the proceedings against their great man, now held secret assemblies, to consult as to measures for their own safety. These were, (probably, with some truth), represented, to Henry, as of political, seditious, character, and, at last, it was reported to him that, in pursuance of a deeply-laid

Conspiracy, (1414) to depose Henry, and make property common,—having, for its (asserted)

Chief.—Sir John Oldcastle,—there was to be a meeting of 25,000 men, in St. Giles's Fields.

Henry, in keen alarm, led a strong force, to the Fields, and, there, found no Cobham, and only 80 poor Lollards, who were, however, seized, nearly 40 being, thereafter, executed, after which a general

Pardon—to all but Cobham, and a few others, was proclaimed. Meanwhile,

Oldcastle, refuged in Wales, and, there remained, in safety, till 1417, when he was captured, taken to London, and, after a farce of a trial, **condemned, as traitor, and heretic, and barbarously executed**, being hanged on a gallows, in St. Giles's Fields, over a fire, by which he was roasted to death.

Archbishop Chicheley followed up the Lollards closely, instituting semi-annual searches for them, throughout the dioceses under his care, and, thereby, so swelling the number of condemned heretics, that lesser punishments, (*e.g.*, imprisonment, and whipping), had to be introduced, the burnings, however, continuing, numerously.

VARIOUS MATTERS.

Richard, ("Dick"), **Whittington**, (whose fabulous history is so familiar to children), "thrice," (1397-8, 1406; 1419), "**Lord Mayor of London**," **flourished**; it is

supposed that he made his money, largely, by the voyages of a ship called "*The Cat*," (whence—it is said—is derived the tale of his marvellous canine friend.) At a banquet, to celebrate Henry's marriage, Sir Richard burned Royal notes-of-hand for the (then) enormous sum of £60,000, borrowed for the French War!

Paper began to be made, partially, of rags.

London first lighted,—by a candle, ordered to be placed, nightly, at every door. The Guildhall was finished.

CONTEMPORARY SOVEREIGNS.

Scotland.	Spain.	Popes
JAMES I.	Castile.	JOHN XXIII.
	JOHN II.	MARTIN V.
France.	Arragon.	
CHARLES VI.	FERDINAND, of Sicily.	
Germany.	ALFONSO V.	
SIGISMUND.		

HENRY VI., ("of Windsor.")

Dates.—Dec. 6, 1421, at Windsor; Sep. 1, 1422-1461, Mar. 4; died, 1471, in the Tower, either by violence, or of grief, at the result of the battle of Tewkesbury,—buried in Chertsey Abbey, Henry VII., afterwards, removing his remains, and reintering them, at Windsor.

Descent, &c.—Only child of Henry V.

Claim.—*Bad by descent*: the rightful heir at his accession was Edmund Mortimer, Earl of March; on the death of the latter, 1424, Richard, Duke of York; and on his decease, his son, Edward (IV.)—*Good by Parliamentary sanction*, granted to his father.

Married.—1445, at Tichfield Abbey, Margaret (daughter of René, Duke of Anjou, titular King of Jerusalem, Sicily, and Naples), 1431-1482, (or, 1490), "a child of sorrow," from her infancy, her father being a prisoner of war, and his possessions in the hands of the English: her "education was her mother's dangers, and the hates of Anjou and Arragon. She was brought up amidst those dramatic

movements of war and intrigue, and her understanding and passions equally throve, under the breeze of the factions of the South,"—unpopular, in England, owing, originally, to one of the marriage provisions being the cession of Anjou, and Maine, to her father, and, afterwards, to the dissatisfaction excited by the manner in which she, with her favorites, ruled,—after Tewkesbury, was taken to the Tower, and, there, kept prisoner, till Louis XI. paid her ransom,—died near Angers.

Beautiful; witty; and of masculine force of character, though liable to change her mind suddenly, when, apparently, most vehemently decided,—a true heroine in maintaining the cause of her husband and son, but using her perfect ascendancy over the former, frequently unwisely, and sometimes cruelly,—thus causing, immediately, the ruin, while aiming at the triumph, of the party.

Issue.—Edward, 1453–71, (stabbed, after Tewkesbury), *m.*, 1470, Anne, daughter of the Earl of Warwick,—amiable, and promising.

Character.—Feeble,—in every sense,—totally unfit to govern, but possessing many amiable qualities, especially generosity, and clemency; pious, and charitable.

WARS.

1. WITH FRANCE, (continued), 1422–44: resumed, 1449–53. *Events.*

Before resumption of hostilities:—

Within two months of Henry V.'s decease, the imbecile Charles VI. died, and the young English monarch was proclaimed King of France.

He had, however, in the person of the Dauphin, a not despicable rival, since numbers of the French nobility who had deserted his father returned to their allegiance: he, at once, assumed the title of, and caused himself to be crowned as, Charles VII.

Regent Bedford, to strengthen his position, now married a sister of the Duke of Burgundy, and by securing her sister as wife for him, attached to himself the Duke of Brittany, who, however, almost immediately, deserted, and lent his powerful aid to Charles, who soon found himself at the head of a formidable body of supporters, and in a position for the

Resumption of hostilities, 1423,—the first important engagement, after which, was the *battle of Crevant*, (Burgundy), July 31, 1423.—*English victorious.*

E. com.—Earl of Salisbury, (Thomas Montacute).

F. coms.—Marshal de Severac; Earl of Buchan, (in command of the Scotch mercenaries, who were nearly annihilated, while their commander was taken).

A greater triumph was won, next year, at the *battle of Verneuill*, (Normandy), Aug. 17, 1424.—*English completely victorious.*

E. com.—Duke of Bedford.

F. and Scotch coms.—Earl Douglas; Earl Buchan, (both slain).

This victory was characterized as “the greatest deed done by Englishmen in our days, save the battle of Agincourt;” the French lost 5,000, including Counts d’Aumale, and Ventadour, and numerous other nobles, while the Scots contingent was so reduced as never again to form a distinct corps in the French army: the English had 1,600 killed, a loss which was so unusually large in the victorious army that Bedford ordered that there should be no rejoicings for the victory.

These successes were, however, considerably damped, by the folly of Bedford’s brother, Gloucester, who, having married Jacqueline, (divorcée of the Duke of Brabant), sovereign lady of Holland, Zealand, Friesland, and Hainault, laid claim to her dominions, spite of the remonstrances of Bedford, and landed, at Calais, with 5,000 men, to enforce his alleged right.

These proceedings greatly incensed the Duke of Burgundy, who was cousin, and heir-apparent, of Brabant, and, consequently, operated against the English interests, for, though the Pope interfered, declaring the marriage invalid, and Gloucester, thereupon, returned home, the friendship of Burgundy was mightily cooled.

For four years, the War languished, owing, chiefly, to the absence, at home, of Bedford, the only noteworthy incident being the *siege, and battle, of*

Montargis, (Orleanois), 1427.—*French victorious.*

F. com.—The Bastard of Orleans.

E. „ —Earl of Warwick.

The battle was fought to raise the siege, in which the French succeeded, the English being beaten, and retreating.

On the return of Bedford, it was determined to carry hostilities into the district held by the French King. Accordingly,

Salisbury, crossing the Loire, in the autumn of 1428, formed the siege of

Orleans, 1428-29.—French victorious.

F. coms.—The Bastard of Orleans; Joan d'Arc.

E. "—Earl of Salisbury; then, Earl of Suffolk, (William De la Pole).

(In this siege, cannon were first used *with effect*).

Salisbury was slain, early in the siege, being struck down, while reconnoitring: he was succeeded by Suffolk, who maintained the blockade through the winter.

Early next year, was fought, in connection with this siege, the battle of

Rouvrai, (or, "Herrings,"—because that fish formed part of the provisions in the convoy), Feb. 12, 1429.—*English victorious.*

E. com.—Sir John Falstaff, (or, Fastolf.)

F. coms.—Comte de Claremont; Bastard of Orleans.

Sir John was convoying, with 1,500 men, a store of provisions, to the besiegers of Orleans, when attacked by a body of 5,000 French, whom he beat off, reaching his destination safely.

A quarrel now occurred, between Bedford and Burgundy, which led the latter to withdraw his forces, in spite of which, the siege progressed so favorably for them, that the English, with reason, regarded the city as theirs,—when, suddenly, there appeared upon the scene that noble, heroic, patriot,—that brave, pure, tender, devout, soul,

Joan d'Arc, (surnamed "*La Pucelle*," and "*Maid of Orleans*"), 1410-31. She was the daughter of honest peasants, of the hamlet of Domrémy, (Lorraine), and very earnest, and unremitting, in religious exercises.

Much brooding over, and supplication concerning, the unhappy state of the country, so wrought upon her sensitive system that, from longing that she could, she came, at last, to imagine that she had a mission from on high to, deliver her beloved land,—that celestial voices bade her quit home, lead her countrymen to victory, and procure Charles's

coronation at Rheims. Making, with difficulty, her way to Charles, she was, after examination by theologians and the Council, and much debate, accepted as a Divinely inspired agent, furnished with military garb and equipments, and sent, at the head of a relieving force, to the beleagured city. To the surprise of all, she forced her way in. This success rehabilitated the courage of the despairing nation, while it filled the English, (who regarded Joan as a witch), with dismay. The tide of success speedily turned, and, in less than a fortnight after she had entered, the

Siege was abandoned, May 8,—Suffolk withdrawing, after burning all his forts.

The French, now, assumed the offensive, with tremendous enthusiasm, and corresponding good fortune.

Salisbury was captured, together with the town of Jargeau, June 12, 1429.

A week later, was fought the battle of

Patay, (Orleanois), June 18.—*French victorious.*

F. coms.—La Hire; Saintrailles; Joan d'Arc.

E. "—Lord Talbot; Lord Scales; Sir John Falstaff.

The English, spite of Talbot's heroic example, and mad objurgations, gave way, before an enemy whom they could have crushed, and their noble commander, not deigning to flee, was captured—the enemy having, thus, within a week, taken the two bravest, and best, English captains.

Charles, his way being open, now proceeded to, and was crowned at, Rheims, July, 1429, whereupon, Joan declared her mission accomplished, and desired to be allowed to return home, which, however—to her cost—she was not allowed to do.

Next year, operations commenced by the siege of

Compiègne,—by the Duke of Burgundy.

Joan was selected to raise the siege, and, heading a sortie, with that design, was captured, May, 1430, and handed over, by Burgundy, to the English, who directed her to be tried, by the Bishop of Beauvais, (a creature of theirs), for alleged sorcery, and heresy: he declared her "guilty," and "to the eternal disgrace of the parties concerned," she was burned alive, in the market-place, at Rouen, May 30, 1431.

As a set-off to Charles's coronation,

Henry was crowned, at Paris, Dec., 1431, (having been, previously, anointed King of England, and France, at Westminster, 1429). The ceremony had, however, the very opposite effect to that intended, Burgundy being conspicuous by his absence, and the functionaries present being nearly all Englishmen.

The war now languished, for a time, during which, however, the English cause continued to lose ground,—but, in 1432, there occurred an event which, finally, led Burgundy to abandon Henry.—

Bedford, having lost his wife, married, within six months after, (1432), Jaquetta, of Luxembourg, a vassal of the house of Burgundy, whose head, the Duke, (his consent, to the union, even, not being asked), determined to make this a pretext for going over to Charles—a step he had long been inclining towards. Having, however, sworn not to make peace, without consent of England, he procured the holding of a Pope-mediated general

Congress, at Arras, 1435.—whereat, the French King offered to cede Normandy, and Aquitaine, subject to only a feudal homage—which terms, the English, with blind confidence in their eventual success, actually refused!

England, thus, rejecting peace, Burgundy felt qualms, at the idea of openly ranging himself against his English allies, but was relieved from his oath, and scruples, by the

Death of Bedford, whereupon, he signed the

Treaty of Arras, Sep. 21, 1435,—thereby, allying himself with the King of France, against England.

Richard, Duke of York, now became **Regent of France, 1436-7,** and, aided by Talbot, gained some small successes, though

Paris was recovered, by Charles VII., and the English driven thence, during York's year of office: he was recalled, 1437, the

Earl of Warwick becoming Regent, 1437-39: he dying, in the latter year, **York again was Regent, 1439-47.**

Somerset, Talbot, and other commanders, continued the struggle, in various quarters, with fluctuating fortune, amongst their successes being the *siege of*

Harfleur, whose governor, John d'Estouteville, capitulated, to **Lords Talbot, and Somerset, 1440.**

Suffolk concluded a

Truce, 1444.

The marriage between Henry and Margaret was negotiated, 1445, and, by the nuptial articles,

Maine, and Anjou—the keys of Normandy—were ceded to the bride's father.

The Duke of Somerset succeeded York, as **Regent, 1447.**

WAR was **RENEWED, 1449-1453.**

Origin.—The *cession of Maine, and Anjou*, to René.

These provinces coming into the possession of René determined Charles VII., who was the Duke's feudal lord, to make, through the new territories, an

Invasion, (for the recovery), of **Normandy**,—which proved perfectly successful, the province being **entirely conquered, 1449.**

Guienne was, next, **conquered, 1451**, by the French, but

Bordeaux, the **Bordelais**, and **Chatillon**, were recovered, by the valiant Talbot, **1452**: however, at the *battle of*

Chatillon, July 20, 1453,—this great English commander was *defeated*, and slain.

Bordeaux was recaptured, **1453**, and, by the end of the year,

England had lost all her former immense possessions, in France, excepting Calais.

2. WARS OF THE ROSES,—see (as far as this reign is concerned), "*Political, &c., Affairs.*" (If an account of the War, alone, be required, the intervening political, &c., matters must be omitted).

PLOTS, &c.

JACK CADE'S INSURRECTION, 1450,—owed its

Origin—to the popular discontent at the reverses in France, and the general misgovernment, but had, for its

Immediate Cause,—a report that the King intended to call to account the men of Kent, for the murder of Suffolk, that county having provided the ships that seized the Duke.

Chief.—Jack Cade, an Irish soldier of fortune, or, a

tailor, (who, however, at the suggestion, it is said, of the friends of the house of York, declared himself to be a Mortimer, by his father's, and a Plantagenet, by his mother's, side.)

Events.—Several outbreaks had already taken place, in various parts of the country, so that, when he set up the standard of revolt, in Kent, Cade was speedily joined by nearly 20,000 men, with whom, he marched to Blackheath, and, thence, sent in, to the King, 2 papers, one of

Complaints—that

1. Henry purposed punishing the men of Kent, for a murder they had not committed,—gave away the Crown revenues, and kept, for his own maintenance, the people's goods,—and excluded from the Council the lords of his own blood, to make place for men of low rank, who oppressed the people.

2. The Sheriffs, under-sheriffs, and tax-collectors, were guilty of great exactions.

3. In elections, the lords overbore the popular will.

4. Delays, and impediments, stood in the way of the administration of justice—the other, of

Requests—that

1. Suffolk's relatives should be banished from Court, and the Dukes of York, Exeter, Buckingham, and Norfolk, with the earls and barons, be employed about the Royal person.

2. The traitors should be punished who had brought about the death of the Dukes of Gloucester, Exeter, Warwick, and the Cardinal,—and had caused the loss of Normandy, &c.

3. All extortions should be abolished, and the great extortioners, Sleg, Cromer, Lisle, and Robert Est, be brought to justice.

The insurgents, now, advanced Londonwards, and, being intercepted, by the Royal troops, were compelled to battle, at

Sevenoaks, (Kent).—*Rebels victorious.*

Reb. com.—**Jack Cade.**

Roy. „ —**Sir Humphrey Stafford, (slain).**

The victors continued their march, and entered London, —where Cade beheaded Lord Say, (the Chamberlain), and his son-in-law, Cromer, (Sheriff of Kent).

By the mediation, however, of the Archbishop of Canterbury, who promised a free pardon to all who should return home, the insurgents retreated, to Rochester, and, there, dispersed. In spite of the pledge given by the Archbishop,

Cade, being discovered hidden in a garden, was killed, by Iden, a Sussex gentleman, and the most prominent of his followers were executed.

POLITICAL, &c., AFFAIRS.

Henry, being but nine months old, (at his accession), it was necessary to arrange for carrying on the government, until he should be of age. Accordingly,

Bedford, (Burgundy refusing the post), was made Regent of France, and

Gloucester, (who claimed to be Regent at home, but was, therein, balked, by his fellow-lords), "**Protector** of the Realm, and Church, of England:" the care of the King's person, and education, was given to Cardinal Beaufort, the Chancellor.

The affairs of England were, during Henry's long minority, in a very distracted condition, owing to the French War, and to the continual

Quarrels between Gloucester and Beaufort,—the latter opposing the policy of the Protector, who, ambitious, and obstinate, fretted against any exercise of power, by the Chancellor, and, with a view to crush him, brought against him serious charges, amongst which was an accusation of having designed to murder Henry V. The contention had become so serious that Bedford was recalled, 1425, to endeavor to arrange it: accordingly, he, with other arbitrators, examined into the matter, and decided that Gloucester must retract his charges, and the rivals, mutually, "forgive, and forget," which they promised to do.

Almost immediately, however, the feud broke out again, with baneful effects, (especially upon the War in France, for it prevented the sending of needed succour, and, so, led to the fall of Paris.)

Beaufort had, gradually, been getting the better of his rival, and, finally, gained complete ascendancy over him in the Council, as was found by its members consenting,

on the Cardinal's motion, against Gloucester's vehement opposition, to the release of the Duke of Orleans, (1440.)

Gloucester had, on the Pope's separating him and Jacqueline, married his mistress, Eleanor Cobham, a woman of bad character—whereby he had lost much of his influence with his own order. The Chancellor, now, determined to make this a means of ruining him. Accordingly, on Beaufort's accusation,

Eleanor Cobham, and **Roger Bolingbroke**, one of Gloucester's chaplains, were arrested, on a charge of treason, and sorcery, it being alleged that they had made a waxen image of Henry VI., and subjected it to slow melting, before a fire, with the purpose of causing the King to waste to death, that Gloucester might succeed to the Throne. The scheme prospered, Eleanor being found guilty of **witchcraft**, and sentenced to life-imprisonment, after doing penance, by walking the streets, for three days, hoodless, and bearing a lighted taper. Bolingbroke was executed, and Southwell, another alleged confederate, died, suddenly, in prison.

Under Cardinal Beaufort's patronage, the Earl of Suffolk had, gradually, risen to great eminence, and become a formidable rival of Gloucester, his power being greatly augmented by the young Queen, (whose marriage he had arranged), yielding herself to his influence.

Gloucester resented the Queen's favoritism, and indignantly protested against the pacific, weak, policy, which was, upon Henry's marriage, adopted towards France. It was, accordingly, determined, by his enemies, to destroy him. At a Parliament, at Bury St. Edmund's, he was **arrested**, at Suffolk's instance, on a charge of treason: a few days after, he was found dead, in bed, 1447. He had long been ailing, and it seems most likely that his death was natural: it was, however, generally believed that he had been assassinated. His death was a most severe blow to the Lancastrian cause, which was, shortly, further weakened, for

Cardinal Beaufort died, within two months of his great rival, 1447: there, now, remained no male Lancastrian "but the pageant King."

Suffolk, (now made Duke), had overreached himself, in the matter of Gloucester, for the latter's death was, popu-

larly, attributed to him, and so increased the feeling against him, caused by his many illegal, and tyrannical, acts, and by his policy towards France, that he was impeached, by the Commons, 1450, on a charge of high treason. Henry, however, would not allow the matter to go on, but, on the pretext that the Duke had thrown himself wholly on the Royal clemency, banished Suffolk for five years.

The Duke's enemies, however, determined not to let him escape: accordingly, they caused him to be intercepted, on his way to France, by the "*Nicholas of the Tower*," on being removed on board which, he was received with the ominous salutation, "Welcome! traitor! as men say": on the third day, he was lowered into a small-boat, and, there, beheaded, by a sailor, with a rusty sword, 1450.

After the suppression of Cade's rebellion, (which sprang immediately from the murder of Suffolk), the

Duke of Somerset, (grandson of John of Gaunt, and next of kin to Henry), who had been Governor of Normandy, came to England, and became **Chief Minister** to the Crown. He was, however, very unpopular, the recent disasters in France being laid to his charge. The national favorite, at this juncture, was the

Duke of York, who had won the heart of the people, by his kind and gentle disposition, and by the courage, and ability, which he had conspicuously displayed as **Lieutenant of Ireland**, (to which office, he was appointed, 1449).

On his return, he placed himself in opposition to Somerset, and the Queen, and a contest ensued, which developed into the wretched

WARS OF THE ROSES, (so called from the rose being the badge of each party, the Lancastrian color being red, the Yorkist, white), 1455: 1459 - 1471: resumed, 1485.

Origin.—Richard, *Duke of York*, endeavoring to gain the *Crown*, from Henry VI.

Richard was the *rightful heir*, by *hereditary descent*, being the lineal representative of Lionel, Duke of Clarence, Edward III.'s third son, while Henry VI. was grandson of John of Gaunt, Edward III.'s *fourth* son. But though York's hereditary right was preferable, it seems unques-

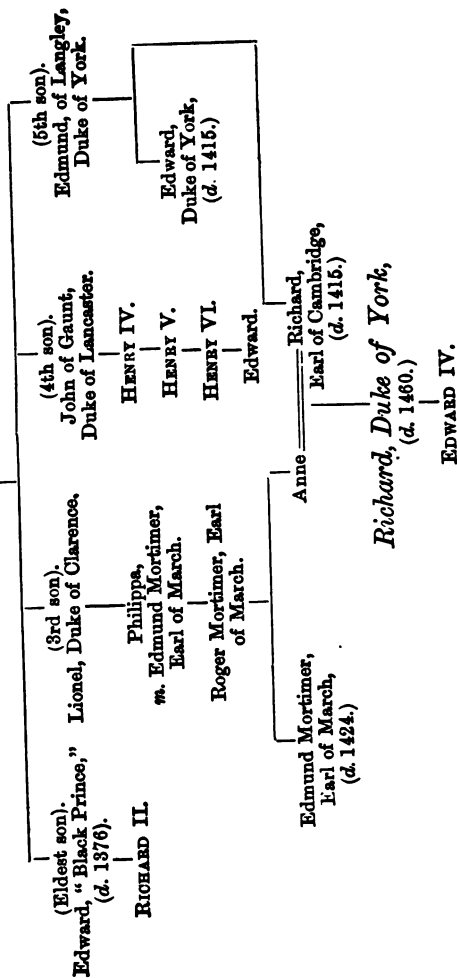
tionable that Henry was "lawful monarch, seeing that he held the Crown by virtue of repeated Parliamentary enactments, confirmed by the general consent of the nation, by the oath of allegiance taken by the members of the rival family," and by long possession.

Richard sprang from the intermarriage of the heiress of Clarence, with the heir of *York*, (whence his title "Duke of *York*"): it was solely, and wholly, from his Clarence descent that he derived his claim, for the Duke of York was Edward III.'s *fifth* son.

His lineage will be clearly seen in the following

Table, illustrating the Wars of the Roses.

EDWARD III.



Events leading to War.—

Richard had long been feeling his way thronewards, but it was not till after his Lieutenancy of Ireland that his friends made open mention of his claim, this divulgement being followed, however, very speedily, by one of the Members making, in Parliament, a

Proposition that Richard should be declared Heir to the Throne, 1451 : at the same time, York, through his partizans in the house, demanded that Somerset, and his friends, should be removed from the Council, which the King, however, refused, whereupon,

York took up arms, early in 1452,—on pretence of opposing Somerset's dangerous designs, but, on Henry's issuing a mock order for Somerset's arrest, **disbanded his troops**: he was, immediately, taken, and after being, for a short time, **imprisoned**, dismissed to his residence, on the Border of Wales.

In the autumn of next year, a Prince was born, destroying Edward's hope, and prospects, of quietly succeeding Henry—and, thus, sealing the fate of the Lancastrians. A month after, Henry became insane, which becoming known, the Yorkists determined to enter heartily into the contest for the political supremacy.

York was, at once, recalled to the Council, and, on the meeting of Parliament, appointed "**Protector, and Defender, of the Realm,**"—while Somerset was imprisoned, and stripped of all his offices, **1454**.

Towards the year's end, however, Henry recovered, revoked York's commission, released Somerset, and strove to reconcile the rivals.

York, however, professing to fear Somerset's violence, **raised forces**, in the North, so commencing, **1455**, the

Events of the War.—

The Yorkists marching upon London, the King set out to meet them, and there was fought the *first battle of the Wars of the Roses*, at

St. Albans, (Herts), May 22, 1455.—Yorkists victorious.

Y. coms.—Richard, Duke of York; Richard Neville, Earl of Salisbury; his son, Richard Neville, Earl of Warwick,

L. coms.—Henry VI.; Edmund Beaufort, Duke of Somerset; Humphrey Stafford, Duke of Buckingham.

Only about 120 were slain, but Somerset, and several other Lancastrian leaders, were amongst these, and *Henry was captured.*

(This battle is, perhaps, not rightly included in the Wars of the Roses—since it was not fought for the *avowed* end of winning the Crown, for Richard: still, that was the *real* purpose, and, in this view, the engagement is properly counted as one of the Roses series.)

Richard treated the King with every outward mark of respect, but compelled him to declare, in Parliament, that Somerset had misled him, and that the Yorkist lords were his true and faithful lieges.

Towards the end of the year, Henry had another attack of insanity, and

York was, again, named **Protector, 1455**,—with the proviso that he was to hold the office at the pleasure of the Lords in Parliament, which was “sufficient to prove *this protectorate . . . altogether of a revolutionary complexion.*” Again, the King recovered, early in 1456: York was relieved of his office, and Henry resumed the full sovereignty.

For two years, there was, now, no open contention, though the current of ill-feeling was steadily swelling to overflow-point, Margaret, and York, being especially bitter towards one another. A farce of

Reconciliation between these two was played, in the spring of 1458, they walking to St. Paul’s, hand-in-hand. Next came the

Pretext for the Yorkists’ resuming hostilities—in the attempted assassination of the Earl of Warwick, a strong Yorkist: the blame was laid upon the Queen, and York, Salisbury, and Warwick, prepared to recommence hostilities.

Salisbury, marching from the North, to join York, on the Border of Wales, was confronted, by a Lancastrian force, and compelled to *battle, at*

Bloreheath, (Staffs.), Sep. 23, 1459.—*Yorkists victorious.*

Y. com.—Earl of Salisbury.

L. „ —Lord Audley.

Audley, and about 2000 of his men, were slain.

The junction, interrupted by Audley, was now accomplished, and the united forces brought to *battle*, by the Queen, largely followed, at

Ludlow, (Salop), Oct. 13, 1459.—*Lancastrians victorious.*

L. coms.—Queen Margaret.

Y. coms.—Duke of York; Earl of Salisbury.

Little fighting was done, a Royal proclamation, offering general pardon, causing Sir Andrew Trollope to desert, with his men, to the Royal ranks, which threw the remainder of the Yorkists into confusion, and flight. An apparently complete break-up of the party ensued,

York escaping to Ireland, and Warwick, (who was its Governor), and his father, to Calais. A

Parliament, at Coventry, held next month, passed an **Attainder on York**, and his chief adherents.

This seemed a death-blow to the White Rose cause, but, suddenly, Warwick, at the invitation of the men of Kent, landed, at Sandwich, with a few followers, whose number, by the time he reached London, amounted to 30,000. Henry hastily collected a force, at Coventry. The Earl, marching North, brought him to *battle*, at

Northampton, July 10, 1460.—*Yorkists victorious.*

Y. coms.—Earl of Warwick; Edward, Earl of March, (Edward IV.)

L. coms.—Duke of Buckingham; Henry VI.

Buckingham, with 300 other nobles, knights, and gentlemen, fell.

Henry VI., was *captured*, the Queen, and Prince Edward, *escaping*, to Scotland. Three months after,

York returned from Ireland, and laid before the Parliament, (just assembled at Westminster), a formal claim to the Crown, upon which, they made a compromise—**Henry to reign, during his life**,—and Richard, and his heirs, to succeed Henry, to the exclusion of the latter's son.

This arrangement, disinheriting her boy, Margaret would not consent to; accordingly, she assembled the Lancastrians, and, coming upon the Duke, (who had retired, in peace, to Sandal Castle, to spend the Christmas), before he had time to gather any force, engaged him in *battle*, at

Wakefield Green, (Yrka.), Dec. 31, 1460,—*Lancastrians* triumphantly *victorious*.

L. coms.—Queen Margaret ; Duke of Somerset.

York's army, which was outnumbered, by 2 to 1, was beaten in half-an-hour: *York was slain*,—his son, the Earl of Rutland, butchered, in cold blood by Lord Clifford,—and Salisbury, and other Yorkist prisoners, beheaded, at Pontefract, the next day.

Young Edward, of March, was at Gloucester, when he heard of his father's death, and, at once, increasing his forces, marched, to intercept the Royal army, in its victorious progress South. Followed, however, by another Yorkist force, he turned, and engaged his pursuers, in battle, at

Mortimer's Cross, (Hereford), Feb. 2, 1461.—*Yorkists* *victorious*.

Y. com.—Edward, Duke of York, (Edward IV.).

L. com.—Jasper Tudor, Earl of Pembroke.

About 4,000 Lancastrians were slain: Pembroke escaped, but *Owen Tudor* was taken, and, with other prisoners, beheaded, at Hereford.

Meanwhile, Margaret advanced, in triumph, on London, but was met, and brought to battle, at

St. Albans, Feb. 17, 1461.—*Lancastrians* *victorious*.

L. com.—Queen Margaret.

Y. coms.—Earl of Warwick ; Duke of Norfolk.

This victory set Henry at liberty, but little benefited his cause, since his troops, instead of marching to London, dispersed, to pillage, and ravage, which terrified the Londoners into attachment to

York, who, a few days after, formed a junction with **Warwick**, which compelled the King's army to retire North.

Edward, now, entered London, and, again, laid his claim to the Crown, before an

Assembly of Peers, Prelates, and Citizens,—basing his demand on Henry's having violated his former agreement, by joining his wife's forces,—and on his incapacity to govern.

His plea was accepted, Henry was solemnly deposed, and Edward declared King, Mar. 4, 1461.

STATUTE, (not mentioned elsewhere.)

Act,—providing that County Electors must have an estate of 40s. a year.

ECCLESIASTICAL, &c., AFFAIRS.

Primates.—Henry Chicheley, John Stafford, John Kemp, Thomas Bouchier.

VARIOUS MATTERS.

A terrible

Famine, and Pestilence, occurred, 1439-41.

The title of

"**Viscount**" was first bestowed, in England, on John Beaumont. The

First Lord Mayor's Show was held, 1450.

Hand-guns were introduced. The

Manufacture of Glass was begun in England, 1457.

Great Frost, 1434: the Thames bore waggons, as far as Gravesend.

CONTEMPORARY SOVEREIGNS.

Scotland.	Germany.	Arragon.
JAMES I.	SIGISMUND.	ALFONSO V.
JAMES II.	ALBERT II.	JOHN II.
JAMES III.	FREDERICK III.	
		Popes.
France.	Spain.	MARTIN V.
	Castile.	EUGENIUS IV.
CHARLES VII.	JOHN II.	NICHOLAS V.
	HENRY IV.	CALIXTUS III.
		PIUS II.

House of York.

EDWARD IV.

Dates.—At Rouen, Ap. 29, 1441; (declared King, by Parliament), Mar. 4, 1461 - 1483, Ap. 9, of fever, which proved fatal owing to neglect of premonitory symptoms.

Descent.—Second, (but eldest surviving), son of Richard, Duke of York, (slain at Wakefield),—first appeared on the scene at the battle of Northampton, at once taking a first place for courage, and ability to command,—after his father's death, entered energetically into the contest, on his own account—with rare success, becoming King, within two months after.

Claim.—*Good by* (1), *descent*, being direct lineal heir of Lionel, of Clarence,—(2), *Parliamentary sanction*.

Married—1464, Elizabeth, (1431—1492), daughter of Sir Richard Woodville, (afterwards, Earl Rivers), by Jacquetta, widow of the Duke of Bedford.

She married, in her 22nd year, Sir John Grey, (son of Earl Ferrers), a Lancastrian leader, who was mortally wounded, at the second battle of St. Albans, whereby, she was left a widow, with a family, but with no provision for them, since her husband's estates were confiscated.

Edward, making a visit to Jacquetta, the Lady Elizabeth took advantage thereof, to waylay him, and, presenting her fatherless boys to him, begged him to restore the lands.

Struck by her delicate beauty, and sweet modesty, the amorous King offered her marriage, and, being accepted, the ceremony was, at once, performed, at Grafton, in private, (for fear of offending the Nevilles), not being divulged until the autumn,—endured much suffering, owing to persecution, by her enemies, seeing her father and brother slaughtered, and her mother accused of witchcraft,—during Edward's absence in Flanders, took sanctuary, with her children, in Westminster, being kept from starvation, only by the kindness of a butcher,—on her husband's death, was again compelled to seek sanctuary, but was starved

into surrender, and, then reduced to the rank of a private person,—restored, by Henry VII., to her proper station, and fortune,—died in the Convent, at Bermondsey.

Issue.—Edward V.; Richard, Duke of York; Elizabeth, *m. Henry VII.*: Catherine, *m. William Courtenay*: Anne, *m. Thomas Howard*, Earl of Surrey: another son, and four other daughters.

Character.—Well-built, and graceful; the handsomest, (or rather, perhaps, most beautiful), man of his day: easy and elegant, in manners; engagingly affable.

Brave, active, enterprising,—but wanting in prudence, and foresight, and in power of sustained effort.

Enamoured of splendor, pomp, and show: luxurious, and voluptuous, in the extreme.

Possessing great mental power, highly accomplished, and of literary tastes, having, (and using), a fine library, and patronizing Caxton, and scholars generally.

Cruel, (as shewn in his reckless disregard of life, where his interests, or feelings, were concerned); crafty, (maintaining a regular spy-system, to support his Throne): sensual in the extreme, (his irregular passions ruining many a noble and honourable house): amongst his victims was Jane Shore, wife of a London goldsmith, a woman of rare beauty, whom he induced to leave her husband.

Entirely destitute of religious, as of moral, principle.

WARS.

1. OF THE ROSES,—see “Political, &c., Affairs.”

2. WITH FRANCE, 1475.

Origin.—Burgundy's begging Edward's aid against France, and Louis' succouring the Lancastrians. As a

Pretext,—however, for hostilities, Edward revived the claim of Edward III. to the French Crown.

Having drawn from the people larger subsidies than had ever before been done, extorting, for the first time,

“Benevolences,” (or “free gifts”), by which “each man gave to the King what he pleased, or, rather, what he did not please,”

Edward embarked, with 20,000 men, at Sandwich, for an Invasion of France, 1475.—Burgundy, however, in spite of grand promises, brought him such small support as to effectually ruin his prospects. Fortunately, the

crafty Louis XI. was really afraid, and himself proposed terms, which were accepted, and embodied in the

Treaty of Pecquigny, Aug. 29, 1475.

Articles.—Louis to

1. Pay Edward 75,000 crowns, in the course of the year, and settle on him a pension of 50,000.

2. Marry his eldest son to Edward's eldest daughter.

3. Conclude a 7 years' truce, and a commercial treaty, with England.

4. Margaret of Anjou to be released, on payment of 50,000 crowns, (an article greatly to the credit of Louis !)

This Treaty, (negotiated by the two monarchs, personally, who met, at Pecquigny, half-way across a bridge erected over the Somme, shaking hands, and conversing, through a wooden grating—precautions of the suspicious French King against being assassinated, like Burgundy had been), made the people of England very indignant, their anger being kindled, especially, at the King, (as, also, some of the Council, whom Louis had bribed), becoming a pensioner of France.

3. WITH SCOTLAND,—see "Scotch Affairs."

POLITICAL, &c., AFFAIRS.

WARS OF THE ROSES, (*continued*).—

Edward, not waiting for his coronation, set out for the North, which the Lancastrians held, immediately upon his being declared King, and, with 40,000 men, met the foe in battle, at

Towton, Mar. 29, 1461.—*Yorkists victorious.*

Y. com.—Edward IV.

L. "—Duke of Somerset.

The contest was long, and bloody, costing the vanquished, 28,000, and the victors, 10,000. Henry, Margaret, and Prince Edward, fled to Scotland.

Edward returned to London, and was crowned, at Westminster, **June 29, 1461**,—at the same time, creating his brothers, George, and Richard, respectively, Dukes of Clarence, and Gloucester.

Later on in the year,

Parliament declared Henrys IV., V., and VI., usurpers, and attainted 12 peers, and over 100 others, for supporting the Lancastrian cause.

Margaret, never losing heart, failing to obtain Scotch aid, now crossed to France, and, there, by offering Calais, as security, obtained means to raise 2,000 men, with whom she boldly returned to the North of England, where she *reduced three castles*: success then abandoned her, and she, again, *retired to Scotland*. The

Lancastrian forces, however, in the North, still kept the field, until *vanquished in the battle of*

Hedgeley Moor, (Northumberland), Ap. 25, 1464.

Y. com.—Lord Montacute, (brother of Warwick).

L. „—Sir Ralph Percy, (slain),—*and of*

Hexham, (Northumberland), May 15, 1464.

Y. com.—Lord Montacute.

L. „—Duke of Somerset, (taken, and *beheaded*).

Henry, after these defeats, found refuge in Lancashire, for more than a year; he was, then, betrayed, by a monk, captured, and conveyed to London,—while Margaret, and her son, made good their escape to Flanders.

Attainders, and executions, again ensued of members of the unfortunate

Lancastrian Party, which was now so completely broken up, and down, that had it not been for the issue of Edward's marriage, it would, almost certainly, have never again been heard of.

Edward made known his union with Elizabeth, towards the end of 1464, and, thereby, gave great offence to his brothers, and many of his supporters, the principal grievance being his having favored, enriched, and honored, lavishly and invidiously, his wife's relations,—providing handsomely for three brothers, and five sisters, of hers, by noble marriages; and making her father Earl Rivers, and Lord High Constable.

Amongst the malcontents, the chief were Edward's most powerful supporters, the three brothers, Neville—Richard, Earl of Warwick, “the King-Maker,” the greatest nobleman in England; John, Earl of Northumberland, (formerly, Lord Montacute); and George, Archbishop of York—who bitterly resented the Royal marriage, and subsequent conduct.

Warwick, especially, openly quarrelled with Edward, and set himself to thwart and defy him, first, by a *vain attempt to prevent the union of Edward's sister,*

Margaret, and Burgundy,—and, then, by marrying his own daughter, Isabella Neville, to Clarence, brother of the King, against the will of the latter.

Almost immediately after this union, which immensely strengthened Warwick, there broke out an

Insurrection, in Yorkshire, 1469,—the

Leader,—being Robin, of Redesdale, and the *ostensible*

Cause,—a claim, by the Warden of *St. Seward's Hospital*, near York, to a *thrave*, (= 24 sheaves), of corn, from every plough-land in the country, (as granted by Athel-tan),—while, there is no doubt, the rising owed its *real*

Origin,—to *Warwick's agency*, since his name was freely used amongst the insurgents, his retainers joined them, and there was raised, by them, a cry for the removal of the Woodvilles.

They received a check, from Northumberland, Warwick's brother, their *leader* being taken, and *executed*, but the victor, evidently in concert with Warwick, did not press them or follow them up, but allowed them, 60,000 strong, to march South, with the avowed purpose of compelling the King to set aside the Queen's relatives,—Robin's place, as leader, being supplied by two of Warwick's relatives. They were met, and brought to *battle*, by the Royal troops, at

Edgecote, (near Panbury, Oxon), July 26, 1469.—

Rebel, (or Lancastrian), *com.*—Sir John Conyers.

Y. com.—Earl of Pembroke, (taken, and executed).

The Queen's father, and brother, were taken, shortly after, in the Forest of Dean, and beheaded.

Edward was, now, almost deserted, taking advantage of which, Warwick shut him up in **Middleham Castle**, in charge of the Archbishop of York, probably, with the design of placing Clarence on the Throne.

A rising, however, of the Lancastrians, taking place, and the people refusing to repel it, unless assured that he lived,

Edward was restored to liberty, by Warwick, and a hollow

Reconciliation was effected between Edward, Clarence, and Warwick, 1469. Next spring, however, at the instigation of the Nevilles, there broke out another

Insurrection, in Lincolnshire, 1470,—having as

Leader,—Sir Robert Welles, and its *ostensible*

Object,—the *reformation of the Government*. Warwick was ordered to suppress the movement, but avoided an engagement: the King, however, displaying great energy, and activity, came upon the rebels, before the Nevilles had time openly to join them, and engaged them in *battle, at Stamford, Mar. 12, 1470.—Yorkists victorious.*

Y. com.—Edward IV.

Rebel, (or, Lancastrian), *com.*—Sir Robert Welles.

The confessions of the prisoners implicating Warwick, and Clarence, the King declared them, by proclamation, traitors, whereupon, they retired to the Continent.

Being refused admission to Calais, (of which Warwick was Governor), the exiles proceeded to Amboise, where the French Court then was, and were well received by Louis, who succeeded in effecting, *between Queen Margaret, (also at his Court), Warwick, and Clarence, the*

Treaty of Amboise, 1470.

Articles.—1. The three to unite, to support Henry VI.

2. Prince Edward to marry Warwick's second daughter.

3. Failing male issue of this marriage, Clarence to succeed.

The last-named was dissatisfied with the agreement, as it virtually put the Crown out of his grasp: accordingly, he, quietly, let his brother know that he meant to desert Warwick, as soon as convenient.

Burguundy warned Edward of what was going on at Amboise, but, strange to say, the monarch heeded not, but, leaving the South unprotected, marched, to put down a fresh

Insurrection in the North,—having for its

Leader,—Lord Fitzhugh, (brother-in-law to Warwick), who, thus, created a diversion, in favor of

Warwick, and Clarence, who landed, unopposed, at Dartmouth, Sep. 13, 1470,—

Henry VI. was proclaimed King,—and, owing to Warwick's popularity, there assembled, in a few days, a mighty host, which was marched North, to meet

Edward, who, however, finding he could not reckon on the fidelity of his troops, and being deserted by Northum-

berland, hastened to Lynn, and, thence, fled to Flanders, Oct. 3, 1470.

The Lancastrians, now, entered London,—

Henry VI. was released, from the Tower, and restored, Oct. 5,—and, at a Parliament, called in his name, the

Treaty of Amboise was ratified,—

Warwick, and Clarence, were made Protectors, during Prince Edward's minority,—and used their power clemently, their only victim being Tiptoft, Earl of Worcester, who had exercised his office of Constable with great cruelty.

For six months, this state of things continued.

Edward, however, was not idle, and, having succeeded in obtaining, from Burgundy, the means of raising 2,000 troops, he landed, with this small force, at Ravenspur, Mar. 14, 1471.

At first, he gave out, as Henry IV. had, formerly, done, that he had only come to recover the family estates, but, as he advanced South, his following increased, day by day, until he reached Coventry; where, Clarence, deserting Warwick, came over to him, with 4,000 men, whereupon, he boldly declared himself King.

Edward, and his brother, now marched to London, which they entered, Ap. 11, followed by Warwick, and the unfortunate

Henry, again, became captive.

A few days after, Edward marched out of London, and gave the enemy battle, at

Barnet, (Herts), Ap. 14, 1471.—*Yorkists victorious.*

Y. com.—Edward IV.

L. „ —Earl of Warwick.

The fight was long, and obstinate, and was lost, mainly, owing to the Lancastrians mistaking, in the mist, a body of their own troops, for those of the enemy. The number slain is not known, but it included the potent, and dreaded, "*King-maker*," whose loss was the virtual death-blow to Henry's cause.

The very day of Barnet,

Margaret landed, with French troops, and, though dismayed by the tidings of Warwick's defeat, and death,

marched West, to effect a junction with Pembroke, who had collected an army of Welshman, in her behalf.

Proceeding, first, to Exeter, she was considerably reinforced, and advanced thence, to Gloucester, where she found the bridge fortified, and was, accordingly, compelled to pass on, to Tewkesbury, where she entrenched herself. Here, she was overtaken, by the King,—and engaged in the decisive *battle of*

Tewkesbury, (Gloucestershire), May 4, 1471.—*Yorkists* completely *victorious*.

Y. com.—Edward IV.

L. coms.—Duke of Somerset; Queen Margaret; Prince Edward.

4,000 Lancastrians fell on the field,—*Prince Edward* was taken, and *butchered*, in Edward's presence, (or, as some say, was *amongst the killed* in battle),—Somerset, and several other leaders, were captured, and beheaded,—*and Margaret*, discovered, in a small nunnery, near the field, was *sent to the Tower*.

Edward, after the battle, returned to London, and the following day,

Henry VI.'s body was exhibited, at St. Paul's, with the statement that he had been found dead, in his bed.

Tewkesbury gave the *finishing stroke* to the *Lancastrian cause*,—for the battle of Bosworth, though reckoned amongst the struggles of the War, stands upon a totally different footing, since it was not Richard III.'s being a Yorkist, but a bad, and hated, king, that led to Richmond's invasion, and triumph, and Richmond, himself, had not inherited, by his descent, the Lancastrian claim.

The "**Wars of the Roses**," properly so-called, ended with **Tewkesbury**.

At subsequent periods, other Lancastrian supporters suffered, amongst them being the Archbishop of York, who was dispossessed, and imprisoned at Guisnes, near Calais, and the traitor

Clarence, with whom his brother Edward had professed to be fully reconciled. They had, for a long time, been alienated, (the crafty Gloucester doing his utmost to widen the breach), when, in consequence of his defending two of his servants, who had been executed on a charge of casting the nativities of the King, and Prince Edward,

and of seditious language, he was, (Gloucester having a sly hand in the affair), arrested, on a charge of high treason, and, the King himself conducting the prosecution, condemned, ten days after which, it was announced that he had died in the Tower, Feb. 18, 1478: the older historians, (and Shakespeare), make him to have been knocked on the head, and, then, thrown, to drown, into a butt of Malmsey.

In this reign, occurred the *last* instance of a pitched battle between two powerful noblemen—viz.,

Lord Berkeley, and Lord Lisle,—whose friends, and retainers, fought a fierce engagement at

Nibley Green, (Gloucestershire), 1470.

ECCLESIASTICAL, &c., AFFAIRS.

Primate.—Thomas Bouchier.

To gratify the Pope, and the clergy, Edward granted a Charter,—dispensing with “*Præmunire*,” and depriving the secular courts of jurisdiction over ecclesiastics !! Happily, this did not receive the sanction of Parliament.

VARIOUS MATTERS.

Printing was introduced, into England, by William Caxton, 1473-4; in the former year, he set up a press, in the Sanctuary, at Westminster, and, in the latter, produced, there, “*The Game and Playe of Chesse*,” the first book printed in England. The first English book printed, however, was produced, by Caxton, at Ghent, 1471, and was a translation from the French, “*Recuyell of the Histories of Troy*.”

Posts were first used—on the road from London to Scotland, the service being by horsemen, placed 20 miles apart; 100 miles per day was the average rate. A great

Plague, 1479,—carried off more persons than fell during the previous 15 years of civil war.

SCOTCH AFFAIRS

There broke out, towards the end of this reign,
WAR WITH ENGLAND, 1480-82.

Origin.—Either Louis’ intrigues, or Edward’s wishing

to take advantage of the dissensions which existed between James III., and his nobles.

For two years, nothing greater took place than border skirmishes. At the end of that time, Edward invited over from France, (where, after failing in a rebellion, he had refuged), James's brother, the Duke of Albany, who promised, on condition of being placed on the Scottish throne, to hold his Kingdom as a fief of England,—to cede Berwick,—and marry an English princess. The

Duke of Gloucester formed the *siege of*

Berwick,—which *capitulated*, though the Castle held out.

James raised an army, but his nobles, proving refractory, hanged his favorites, and carried him off to Edinburgh Castle. Thereupon, an

Invasion of Scotland, (1482), was entered upon, by Gloucester, and Albany, who marched to the capital, and took

Edinburgh Castle,—and liberated James, who was, then, reconciled to his brother—Edward's design thus failing, though

Berwick was ceded, 1482,—to remain, thenceforth, an English possession.

CONTEMPORARY SOVEREIGNS.

Scotland.	Spain.	Popes.
JAMES III.	Castile.	PIUS II.
	HENRY IV.	PAUL II.
France.	ISABELLA,	SIXTUS IV.
LOUIS XI.	m. Ferdinand V.,	
	of Arragon.	
Germany.	Arragon.	
FREDERICK III.	FERDINAND V.,	
	m. Isabella, of	
	Castile, 1479,	
	so uniting	
	Castile and Arragon.	

EDWARD V.

Dates.—In the Sanctuary, Westminster, (during his father's exile), 1470—1483, Ap. 9—June 26, generally supposed to have been murdered in the Tower, about August, 1483, with his brother, Richard, Duke of York. The account of this tragedy, as given by *More*, (whom most historians follow), is that Sir James Tyrrel was engaged, by Richard III., (on the refusal of Sir Robert Brackenbury, the Governor of the Tower, to act as his tool, in the matter), to assassinate the princes,—and that, on a night when, by arrangement, Brackenbury had given up the keys, Forest, and Deighton, servants of Tyrrel, smothered them, sleeping, in their bed, and buried them under the stairs, whence a priest removed the bodies, so that they could nowhere be found.

This account is corroborated by the facts that

1. Richard pensioned all the parties named as concerned in the murder.

2. In 1674, while repairs were going on, in the Tower, a chest was found, containing the skeletons of two youths, apparently about the age of the princes.

(Charles II. had the remains enclosed in an urn, and buried in Henry VII.'s Chapel, Westminster.)

Hallam, and some few others, are of opinion that it is by no means impossible that the princes did not meet with foul play, and that Perkin Warbeck was Richard, brother of Edward V. (In this view, however, the question is "What, then, became of Edward V.?")

Edward V. was *never crowned*.

Descent.—Eldest son of Edward IV.

Claim.—*Good by descent*,—being direct hereditary representative of Lionel, of Clarence, in whose house the title rightfully lay.—*Good by sanction of Parliament*, which had deposed Henry VI., in favour of Edward IV.

Married—*nil*.

Character.—Unknown.

POLITICAL, &c., AFFAIRS.

On Edward's death, there were, in the State, three parties.

1. That of the Queen, her brother, (Earl Rivers), and her sons by her first marriage, the Marquis of Dorset, and Lord Richard Gray,—who were regarded as aiming at the chief power.

2. Lords Hastings, Stanley, and Howard, friends of the York family and cause, but jealous of the Queen's party.

3. Richard, Duke of Gloucester, (brother of Edward IV.), and the Duke of Buckingham, (descendant of Thomas of Woodstock), whose policy was to gain the throne for the former of the two.

The reign of the unfortunate boy who now ascended the Throne is merely a record of

RICHARD'S USURPATION,—achieved by outwitting, surprising, and crushing, his opponents.

The young King being, when his father died, at Ludlow, under charge of Earl Rivers, the Council ordered the latter to bring him to London, obeying which mandate, he, in prosecution of his journey, came to Stony Stratford, and was, there, met by Gloucester, (with Buckingham), who, serving on the Scotch Border, when he heard of his brother's death, had, also, started South, on his own account. Richard, seizing the opportunity, caused the

Arrest of Rivers, Gray, Sir Thomas Vaughan, and others of the Royal train, and sent them, prisoners, to Pontefract.

This proceeding caused the greatest alarm : the Queen, with the Duke of York, and his sisters, took sanctuary, at Westminster,—and the Londoners armed themselves, some taking the Queen's side, some that of Hastings : Gloucester, however, quieted the people, by professing the utmost attachment to his nephew, whom he brought to London, riding, bareheaded, before him, into the City, where, however, he was, presently, lodged in the Tower.

Richard, with Buckingham, now professed to cordially coalesce, and act, with Hastings, and party, on behalf of the young monarch. A

Great Council,—was held, to settle the government, and, his loyalty being, apparently, genuine, the

Duke of Gloucester was appointed **Protector** of the Kingdom, and **Guardian** of the King, whereupon, Buckingham, his ally, received the offices of Chief Justice, Chamberlain, Seneschal and Receiver of Wales, and *Constable of the Royal Welsh Castles.*

Richard now began to sound Hastings, with a view to detach him from the King, and gain his support, and, finding that this was hopeless, determined to get rid of that nobleman, and crush his party. Accordingly, at a

Great Council, June 13, at the Tower—held to settle about the approaching coronation,

Hastings was charged, by Gloucester, (who—it is said—exhibited his arm, withered (naturally)—in proof that the accused had, with Jane Shore and other accomplices, been practising witchcraft on him), with treason, in plotting against him, as Lord Protector, and was, at once, arrested, and **beheaded**: Stanley, and others, were taken, into custody, at the same time. Shortly after, Rivers, and the other Woodville prisoners, were put to death.

Jane Shore's goods were seized, and she, herself, accused of witchcraft, there being no evidence of which, however, she was tried before the Spiritual Court, for adultery, and compelled to do penance, in a sheet, at St. Paul's. She is said to have died in *Shore* ditch.

Richard's path was now clear, excepting as far as winning the popular voice went. With a view to gain this, he caused, on what was to have been the Coronation Day, Dr. Shaw, brother of the Lord Mayor, to preach, at Paul's Cross, declaring that the late libertine King had been twice married, privately, before espousing Elizabeth Woodville, that the princes, Edward, and Richard, were, therefore, illegitimate, and that, consequently, the Protector's claim was preferable.

Two days later, Buckingham made, at Guildhall, a speech to the same effect, whereupon, some few citizens (hired, probably, to do so), threw up their bonnets, and shouted, "King Richard," (June 24).

Next day, a deputation from Parliament, and the City, waited upon Richard, at Castle Baynard, and endeavoured to prove to him his right.

During all these proceedings, (all originating with, or instigated by, his partizans), paving his way to the Throne, Gloucester had remained in the back-ground, and, even now, professed, at first, that he was loath to burden himself with the weight of Royalty,—but, at last, on his visitors declaring that he had been rapturously proclaimed by the people, and that he alone could save the country, he, professedly for these reasons, yielded.

Finally, there was presented to him, at Westminster, a **Petition, June 26,—desiring him to take the Crown,** “the children of Edward IV. being illegitimate, those of the Duke of Clarence attainted, and the blood of Richard, Duke of York, remaining incorrupt only in the person of Richard, the Protector, Duke of Gloucester,” whereupon, he, with feigned reluctance, **accepted.**

ECCLESIASTICAL, &c., AFFAIRS.

Primate.—Thomas Bouchier.

CONTEMPORARY SOVEREIGNS.

Scotland.	Germany.	Popes.
JAMES III.	FREDERICK III.	SIXTUS IV.
		INNOCENT VIII.
France.	Spain.	
CHARLES VIII.	(Castile, & Arragon.)	
	FERDINAND V., &	
	ISABELLA.	

RICHARD III., (“Crookback,”)

(the last Plantagenet King.)

Dates.—At Fotheringay Castle, Oct. 2, 1452; June 26, 1483-1485, Aug. 21, on Bosworth Field. His body was carried, on horseback, to Leicester, and, there, after two days’ exposure to the public, was buried in the Church of the Greyfriars, but his remains were torn from the grave, by order of Henry VIII., and their stone coffin became a horses’ drinking-trough, at Leicester.

Descent.—Eldest surviving son of Richard, Duke of York, and younger brother of Edward IV.,—sent, on the death of his father, to the Duke of Burgundy, for protection, returning, on his brother’s accession, to be made Duke of Gloucester, and Lord High Admiral,—in command of part of the army, at Barnet, and Tewkesbury, and, subsequently, of a force sent against Scotland.

Claim.—*Bad, in every respect:* the succession lay in Elizabeth, daughter of Edward IV.; next to her, came the Earl of Warwick, son of Clarence.

Married.—1472, Anne Neville, daughter of the Earl of Warwick, and widow of Prince Edward, (son of Henry VI.), 1454 - 1485,—born at Warwick, but passed her youth at Calais,—married Prince Edward, on the reconciliation between her father, and Queen Margaret, and accompanied her husband to England, being with him when he was slain, after which, Clarence, (who had married her elder sister, and wished to keep the whole of the estates), hid her : she was discovered, in the disguise of a cook, in London, by Gloucester, who had determined to espouse her, and conveyed to sanctuary, until the King's consent to the marriage was obtained,—resided, with her husband, at Middleham Castle, till Edward IV.'s death,—died, (it is supposed), of decline, induced by the apprehension that Richard wished to wed Elizabeth, of York : some, however, hold that she was poisoned.

Issue.—Edward, Prince of Wales, *d.* 1484, when about 12 : he was betrothed to Elizabeth, of York. On his son's death, Richard appointed, as heir, the Earl of Lincoln, (John de la Pole), son of Elizabeth, (Edward IV.'s eldest sister), and the Duke of Suffolk.

He left behind him an illegitimate son, educated privately, but whom he had promised to own publicly, if successful at Bosworth ; the lad became a bricklayer, and died, 1550, *æt.* 81. Sir Thomas Mole, of Eastwell Park, Kent, had allowed him a piece of ground, on which to build a house. In the parish register, his death is recorded as that of "Richard Plantagenet."

Character.—Short : strong, and active : of stern, forbidding, countenance. He is, generally, represented to have been deformed—withered, as to one arm ; and hump-backed, owing to one shoulder being higher than the other. *Stow*, however, who had conversed with those who had seen him, declares that he was of "bodily shape, comely enough, only of low stature."

It is hard to arrive at a true estimate on this point, and others, concerning his physical, and moral, characteristics, owing to the conflicting accounts of various historians. The balance of testimony seems against him, but it is to be remembered that the original annalists of his reign wrote under the Lancastrian Tudors.

Possessed the courage, and military capacity, of his race, —with great legislative, and administrative, ability, his

reign being, (especially considering its brevity), remarkable for the number of beneficial enactments.

Ambitious, to the exclusion of natural affection, and all right feeling, and principles: stern: moody: revengeful: suspicious: and treacherous.

WARS.

OF THE ROSES,—*see*, "Political, &c., Affairs."

PLOTS.

Buckingham's Insurrection, — *see*, "Political, &c., Affairs."

POLITICAL, &c., AFFAIRS.

Richard, availing himself of the preparations made on behalf of Edward V., was, (with his Queen), crowned, at Westminster, July 6, (both walking, barefoot, on red cloth, to St. Edward's shrine).

The King, next, raised Buckingham, and other supporters of his, to higher honors, and released Lord Stanley, and others, from captivity,—after which, he, and the Queen, made a Royal progress through the country, during which, they were again crowned, at York, with great pomp.

Meanwhile, insurrectionary movements sprang up in the South, in favor of Edward V., and his brother, and, to the general surprise, Buckingham joined in the movement. Before, however, anything could be done, a report spread that the princes were dead, whereupon, the leaders of the risings, at the suggestion of Morton, Bishop of Ely, (a zealous Lancastrian, whom Richard had placed in care of Buckingham), proposed that the

Insurrection, (1483), should change its

Object—to the *dethroning* of *Richard*, in favor of Henry Tudor, Earl of Richmond, (Henry VII.), who should marry Elizabeth, of York. This plot had, for its

Leaders,—Duke of Buckingham; Morton; Marquis of Dorset.

Richard issued a Proclamation, offering large rewards for the apprehension of the chiefs, but promising a pardon to the common people.

The plot ended in a break-down.—

Buckingham collected a force of Welshmen, and advanced

Severnwards, to join his confederates, but the river was too swollen by heavy rains for him to cross, (the inundation being so unprecedented, that it received the name of the "*Great Flood*," and, "*Buckingham's Flood*"),—and, while he waited for it to subside, his followers deserted him. He, then, refuged in the house of a servant of his, named Banister, and was, by him, betrayed, being, thereupon, carried to Salisbury, and executed, without trial, Nov. 1, 1483.

Henry of Richmond, meanwhile, sailed from St. Malo, with 40 ships, but tempestuous weather compelled his return.

Soon after, an attempt was made to seize him, whereupon, he left Brittany, and refuged in the dominions of Charles, of France, who gave him permission to raise forces.

On the death of his wife, Richard made overtures of marriage to Elizabeth of York, but found the general feeling so strong against the marriage, that he caused a public announcement to be made that it had never been intended.

RICHMOND'S fears, however, were excited, by the news of the projected union, and, accordingly, he hastened his preparations for an **INVASION**, (1485). Richard, on learning this, issued a

Proclamation against the rebels, calling on his faithful subjects to aid him against the invaders. His position, however, caused him much apprehension, for he was short of funds, and speedily realized the fact that there was, in the kingdom, a general organization of the Lancastrians.

Richmond, sailing, with 3,000 men, from Harfleur, Aug. 1, landed, at Milford Haven, on the 6th, and marched thence, to the North, to effect a junction with the Stanleys, (who were, secretly, in league with Henry).

Richard did not hear of the landing, until a week had elapsed, but, on doing so, at once issued orders to his subjects to muster to his support, at Leicester, where he soon found himself at the head of a large force, while Henry had but 4,000 men, even when he reached Shrewsbury. He was, however, certain of the support of Lord Stanley, and, accordingly, boldly crossed the Severn, after which, he found his numbers sensibly increase.

The King, learning that the invaders were on the move, advanced, from Leicester, to meet them, and encamped, and, next day, engaged with them in *battle*, at

Bosworth, (Leicestershire), Aug. 22, 1485,—*Lancastrians victorious.*

L. com.—Henry, Earl of Richmond.

Y. „ —Richard III.

Henry was joined, at Atherston, by the Stanleys, unknown to Richard, who, on the morning of the battle, was thunder-stricken to find them opposed to him, and Northumberland, (also in the plot), remaining inactive.

These two causes, combined, were fatal to him, the odds, against him, spite of a desperate struggle, proving too great.

He, himself, fought with ferocious valor, and, as a last effort, made an attempt to slay Henry, but, after cutting down the hostile standard-bearer, was, while rushing upon his rival, overpowered, and killed: the Crown, (which he wore, in the battle), was taken from the dead monarch, (some say it was found in a bush), and placed, by Stanley, on the head of the victor, amidst shouts of "Long live King Henry."

The Yorkists lost 3,000 men,—the Lancastrians, a mere handful. This battle was the

End of the Wars of the Roses,—the marriage of Henry VII. with Elizabeth reconciling the hostile Houses of Lancaster and York.

STATUTE, (not mentioned elsewhere).

Act annulling Benevolences.

ECCLESIASTICAL, &c., AFFAIRS.

Primate.—Thomas Bouchier.

VARIOUS MATTERS.

Acts of Parliament were, for the first time, drawn up in English, and printed. The

Heralds were made a Corporation, by Richard.

CONTEMPORARY SOVEREIGNS.

Scotland.	Germany.	Popes.
JAMES III.	FREDERICK III.	SIXTUS IV.
	Spain.	INNOCENT VIII.
France.	(Castile & Arragon.)	
CHARLES VIII.	FERDINAND V., and	
	ISABELLA.	

GENERAL NOTES ON THE PERIOD.

GOVERNMENT.

Under the Plantagenets, were established all the institutions whereby our liberties are secured. Its *leading political feature* is the gradual, but sure,

Development of the English Constitution, out of Feudalism,—the first great act in which was the Great Charter. "From this era, a new soul was infused into the people of England. Her liberties became a tangible possession, and those indefinite aspirations for the laws of Edward the Confessor were changed into a steady regard for Magna Charta."

Nothing is more important, and interesting, during this period, than the

Growth of the House of Commons,—from the commencement of the system of popular representation.

The Commons, from the first, (as appears, from the fact that their votes of taxes and those of the Lords, differed), had a separate existence, though the Knights originally sat with the Peers. "Fortunately for the liberties of England, when the constitution of the Houses was fixed, the Knights, from whatever cause, were joined to the citizens and burgesses, and, thus, the Commons acquired a lustre and influence which, otherwise, they would never have possessed." "The Knights must have gradually felt an abatement of their contempt for the industrial classes, whose representatives shared, equally with themselves, the exercise of the highest functions of the State. That coöperation and equality slowly effaced the distinction between the two bodies, whose junction raised up a formidable House of Commons." The chief

Function of Parliament,—was, at first, *to grant supplies*, and "introduce innovations too daring to be hazarded" by one person.

The Commons had, also, and exercised, (at least *as early as* the second year of the reign of *Edward II.*), the *power of coupling, with supply-votes, petitions for the redress of grievances.*

The power of Parliament was much increased under *Edward III.*, since his French wars called for large supplies, and to get these, he had to make many concessions. At the close of his reign, there were established the three following essential principles of our government :—

1. The illegality of raising money without Parliamentary consent.

2. The necessity of the consent of both Houses to any law.

3. The right of the Commons to investigate public abuses, and to impeach ministers.

Under *Richard II.*, there was further extension of the influence of Parliament, whose members took into their hands the appointment, during the King's minority, of the chief officers of the government,—and refused to make grants, unless the public accounts were submitted to them.

His last Parliament, however, shewing a lamentable disregard of the national well-being, sanctioned Richard's arbitrary measures, and even gave him a subsidy in wool for life—a "dangerous precedent"!

Under *Henry IV.*, the power of the Commons much increased ; the members indulging in greater freedom of speech than heretofore, and there originated the all-important maxims that

1. The Commons possess the exclusive right of originating money-bills.

2. The King ought not to interfere with matters which are under discussion in Parliament.

The 32 Articles, (already mentioned), passed, in this reign, "were, of themselves, a noble fabric of constitutional liberty, and hardly, perhaps, inferior to the Petition of Right."

Henry V., and his Parliaments, (which sat almost yearly), agreed admirably, they supporting him, (even to granting him life subsidies on wool, and leather), and he yielding to them, even pledging his crown, at their desire, that no Act should ever pass without their authority.

There was made, under this King, a very important change in the financial system, (displaying, very strikingly, the ascendancy of Parliament, which, alone, originated it)—viz., "the practice of pledging, as a security for loans made to the Crown, duties already granted," the effects of which were, in after times, very unhappy.

The minority, and the quarrels of the princes of the blood, greatly augmented the authority of the House, *under*

Henry VI.—All business of importance came to be regarded as open to Parliamentary discussion, and enactment.

In this reign, too, took place an important alteration in the form of their Acts, which, henceforth, instead of being first presented as *petitions*, and, then, if passed, drawn up, and entered in the Statute-Book, (whereby, frequently, the new laws contained provisions not intended), *were presented*, in the first instance, as *complete statutes*, which became law, if agreed to by Lords, and Sovereign. From this time, it would seem, must be dated the three-fold division of the Legislature—King, Lords, and Commons.

Throughout the Lancastrian Period, though they maintained, and extended, their rights,

Parliament “blindly obeyed the dictates of the faction that had the upper hand.” “The history of their proceedings is a succession of contrary decisions on the same questions.”

A great change took place in the
ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE,—by the complete establishment of

Trial by Jury,—the panel, and the witnesses, becoming entirely distinct. The exact period when this took place is not decided, but the connecting link between the system of *recognitors*, and our modern jury, is found in the 23rd of Edward III., by which the witnesses, instead of being members of, were added to, the jury, to afford testimony, but without a voice in the verdict.

The complete severance of jury and witnesses had been effected by the middle of Henry IV.'s reign.

By the end of the Period, the present system was fully established, with the one difference that the jurymen were to be selected from the neighbourhood.

The old Criminal branch of the County Court, called the **Sheriff's Tourn**,—was deprived of its power of hearing causes, which was transferred to, instead, the *Justices of the Peace*, (sitting at Quarter Sessions), whose power was, thereby, greatly augmented.

Trial by Combat,—remained allowable, in criminal cases, but was subject to so many exceptions, that it rarely took place.

Benefit of Clergy,—(i.e., exemption, in certain cases, from the jurisdiction of the ordinary Courts), granted, at first, strictly to clerics alone, (and to those, only when appearing in their cononicals), was gradually extended to all, (and these were few besides the clergy), who could read, (stumbling through a verse of Scripture—called the “neck verse,” because in cases of felony, the accused’s life hung upon the result—being taken as sufficient).

Persons refusing to plead to an indictment, might, by an enactment of Edward I., (which was not abolished till George III.’s reign), be subjected to the

“**Peine forte et dure**” (= *strong and severe punishment*),—by which, the prisoner refusing to plead was to be laid, almost naked, on the floor of a cell, and have placed, on his body, as great a weight of iron as he could bear, and more; with no sustenance, save three morsels of worst bread on the first day, and, on the second, three draughts of the standing water nearest the prison door—this to go on, day by day, until he should either plead, or die.

The Royal

REVENUE,—was derived from

1. **Scutage**, (a tax instead of military service—instituted by Henry II.)

2. **Fines**, and payments for permission to exact rights, or to exercise privileges: these were very lucrative—e.g., London paid £20,000 to secure Henry III.’s favor.

The Jews were terribly victimized, in this regard, the exactions from them being so extensive as to require the establishment of a separate, special, Jews’ Exchequer Court.

3. **Tallages**, (known as “*tenths*, and *fifteenths*”),—originally uncertain in amount; but, under Edward III., fixed at $\frac{1}{15}$ of every township producing £29,000.

Edward III. greatly augmented his income, by the

Customs on exports, and imports, and, frequently, (at least before the Confirmation of the Charters), seized the property of the landowners, and goods of the merchants, to defray the expenses of his wars.

As restrictions began, and continued, to be placed on the sovereigns, their incomes became more dependent on the will of Parliament.

Under Edward II., the taxes were very light, but he

required special grants, almost annually, whence *was established the important principle that supplies should be granted by Parliament alone.*

The King, however, frequently, imposed arbitrary taxes; and the Commons vindicated their rights, by protesting, on such occasions, and, then, granting the duty, so as to prevent unlawful precedent.

Tonnage, and Poundage,—imposed under Edward III., were granted, at first, by vote of the citizens, and burgesses, without concurrence of the Peers,—consisted, at first, of 2s. on every tun of wine imported, and 6d. on every pound's worth of goods imported, or exported.

Poll, (or, Capitation), Taxes; and Subsidies,—arose under Richard II., the latter being, in their strict sense, taxes laid on persons, in respect of their estates, at the rate of 4s. in the £ for lands, and 2s. 8d. for goods, aliens paying double.

After the introduction of subsidies, most other forms of assessment died out.

SOCIAL LIFE AND MANNERS.

By the end of the Period,

Villanage had become, almost extinct, the villeins having, gradually, developed into copy-holders.

Food.—"The elegant simplicity of the Normans" gave place to great, and gluttonous, extravagance. This had become such a crying evil, as early as that reign that, under Edward III., there was passed a

Sumptuary Law, 1387,—ordering that no one should have for either dinner, or supper, more than two courses, and not above three dishes in each course.

By the end of the Period, the two meals, customary from the time of the Conquest, were increased in number, the upper classes taking four—breakfast, (consisting of bread, loaves called "manchetts," mutton, beef, wine, and beer), at 7 a.m.; dinner, at 10; supper, at 4 p.m.; and, at 9, a repast, (generally, in their chambers), termed the "*livery*."

The diet of the labouring classes was coarse, but abundant, in good years; in bad seasons, they must have endured fearful privations: this is apparent from the fact *that wheat varied, within three years, (1387-90), from 2s. the quarter to 16s. 6d.!*

A remarkable Act, called the **Assize of Bread and Ale**, was passed, 1268,—by which the price of those commodities was fixed, and their venders warned as to their good quality,—the baker, and brewer, being, respectively, in case of repeated violations of the law, ordered to be put in the pillory, and placed on the cucking-stool. Butchers, and cooks, selling bad meat, &c., with regraters, and forestallers, were, also, to be punished.

Dress.—At the commencement of the Period, the ordinary male costume was a tunic; over-tunic; tight pantaloons, and shoes, or short boots, (which, under Henry III., had pointed toes); with caps of various shades.

Females wore a long, close-sleeved, robe, girdled at the waist, and a veil, (or wimple).

The higher classes indulged in rich apparel, affecting, especially, velvet, gold-embroidered cloth, gems, and gold ornaments.

The hair of the men was worn long, and flowing, with the face closely shaven.

Under Edward I., who was indifferent to dress, the taste for expense, and show, received a check.

In his reign, the lower class adopted a blouse, or smock-frock, of canvas, or fustian.

Great changes in dress took place under Edward III. The long and loose robes of the males were superseded by tight-fitting garments, from the sleeves of which hung long slips of cloth, called "tippets," while considerable variety was introduced amongst the ladies.

Under Edward III., there were issued dress

Sumptuary Laws,—to restrain undue expenditure,—prescribing the dress to be worn by each class.

Richard II.'s reign was the age of foppery, and display,—the mania so permeating the nation that it was difficult to distinguish one class from another! Parti-colored jackets and hose were now much in vogue amongst the exquisites, with pantaloons reaching barely to the knee. Beards were worn long, and curled, with the hair tied in a tail, and the head enclosed in a silk hood, tied under the chin; the shoes had toes so long that they were fastened to the girdle, by gold, &c., chains.

During the reigns of Henry IV., and V., there seems to have been scarcely any change. About the time of the

indicating whether the combat was to be with blunted, or with sharp, points, the encounter in the latter case being termed *à outrance*.

This ceremony over, the combatants took their places, at the opposite ends of the lists, and, thence, on the flourish of the trumpets, rushed upon one another, lance in rest, those overthrown being regarded as vanquished. If neither of a pair of opponents fell, the onset was renewed, until that consummation was reached. The victors in the first shock again paired off, for a fresh course, this being repeated until there remained, as victor of the day, one knight, who, besides winning the horses and armour of those vanquished, had the right to choose, from those present, one lady, called the "Queen of Love and Beauty," to preside over the remaining sports.

On the second day, ensued the *mêlée*, (the knights fighting in bands, until stopped by the King, or other president, throwing down his *bâton*), the conqueror in which received some guerdon, generally a crown, from the Queen of Love.

Sometimes, the meeting extended to a third day, devoted to other sports for the lower classes.

In the tournament, the overthrown knights were, almost unavoidably, seriously hurt, and many even killed, but, spite of its rough, and dangerous, character, it was termed a "gentle and joyous sport," and, doubtless, contributed not a little to render the English knights the sturdy, and brave, warriors, that they ever approved themselves.

Trial by combat was conducted on the same principle as the Tournament, but, in the former, the duel was, unless the unhorsed confessed his cause to be unjust, continued, on foot, to the death, or till the monarch parted the opponents.

Tilting at the Quintain.—A pole was set up, with a cross-piece at top, turning on a spindle, and having attached, to one end, a board, and, to the other, a heavy bag of sand. The players on horseback, tilted at the quintain, with lances, endeavouring to strike the board, and, at the same time, avoid a blow from the sand-bag. In the

Water-Quintain.—a shield was set up in the water, and the players, standing up, in boats, aimed, full-tilt, at it, as the rowers impelled them against it: those who shivered their lances against the mark, and yet kept their upright

position, won, while those who hit without their weapons breaking were inevitably soused in the stream.

Falconry, and Hunting,—were much affected by the upper classes,—the clergy, and ladies, eagerly participating, especially in the former.

The lower orders had, for out-door sports,

Archery,—the general practice of which procured for our soldiers that grand supremacy in the use of the bow, which won them Crecy, Agincourt, and so many other victories : it was greatly encouraged by Government, Edward III. ordering its practice on all holidays, out of church-time. Edward IV., also, issued a similar command, and, in both cases, certain sports, which the people affected to the neglect of the bow, were forbidden.

Quarter-staff,—a kind of cudgel-playing, with staves, about six feet long, held, by the players, in the middle ; and

Bull-baiting,—by means of dogs,—long a favorite pastime.

The prevalent indoor amusements were

Draughts, and Chess ; Gambling ; Juggling ; Mimicry, and Mumming ; Dancing ; and Minstrelsy,—the minstrel having an honored place in the household of his lord, whose pedigree, and deeds, (as well as those of his ancestors), he celebrated : **Cards**, (invented, it is said, to amuse the imbecile Charles of France), were introduced, under Edward IV. The

Theatrical Performances, (which were acted, chiefly, on stages in the open air), were *Miracle Plays*,—consisting of Biblical histories and scenes, in which Divine, human, and diabolical, personages, and the redeemed, appeared, and (coming in, in the place of these, under Henry VI.), *Moral Plays*, (or *Allegories*),—in which, the personages represented abstractions, such as Virtue, Truth, Sloth.

WEAPONS, &c.—ringed, or chain, or plated, armour ; helmets ; shields, (supposed to be of Sicilian model) ; long, two-handed, swords ; daggers ; battle-axes ; and the bow, the great national (foot), weapon—of two kinds, the long-bow, (generally of yew, for providing which, yews were planted in the churchyards), discharging the “cloth-yard” arrow ; and the cross-bow, shooting iron, or steel, bolts, (and, frequently, carried by cavaliers).

Closely connected with the Feudal system, was

CHIVALRY, (or, *Knighthood*).—As knights, all the

gentry, from the King downwards, were equal, and underwent a regular training, and probation, first as pages, and, then, as squires, before assuming their spurs, which were not conferred until the aspirant had done deeds displaying his worthiness. The candidate for knighthood, having fulfilled all previous conditions, kept vigil, beside his armour, and arms, before the altar, in the church, during the night preceding his investiture. This being successfully accomplished, he, on the next day, with great ceremony, and under the *ægis* of some distinguished sponsor, took the vows of chivalry, and received the rank, and *insignia*, of knight, being, thenceforth, bound to fidelity, religion, virtue, and valor, and to the employment of his arms in the cause of the weak, and the oppressed, the protection of females forming a conspicuous item of his obligations. Indeed, love, and devotion, to the fair sex were ruling principles of the system.

On the nature, tendency, and influence, of chivalry, *Robertson* well remarks, as follows:—

“This singular institution, in which valor, gallantry, and religion were so strangely blended, was wonderfully adapted to the taste and genius of martial nobles, and its effects were soon visible in their manners. War was carried on with less ferocity when humanity came to be deemed the ornament of knighthood no less than courage. More gentle and polished manners were introduced when courtesy was recommended as the most amiable of virtues. Violence and oppression decreased when it was reckoned meritorious to check and punish them. A scrupulous adherence to truth, with the most religious attention to fulfil every engagement, became the distinguishing characteristic of a gentleman, because chivalry was regarded as a school of honor, and inculcated the most delicate sensibility with respect to those points. The admiration of these qualities, together with the high distinctions and prerogatives conferred on knighthood in every part of Europe, inspired persons of noble birth on some occasions with a species of military fanaticism, and led them to extravagant enterprises. But they deeply imprinted on their minds the principles of generosity and honor. These were strengthened by everything that can affect the senses or touch the heart.

“The political and permanent effects of the spirit of

chivalry have been less observed. Perhaps the humanity which accompanies all the operations of war, the refinements of gallantry, and the point of honor, the three chief circumstances which distinguished modern from ancient manners, may be ascribed, in a great measure, to this institution, which has appeared whimsical to superficial observers, but, by its effects, has proved of great benefit to mankind. The sentiments which chivalry inspired had a wonderful influence on manners and conduct during the twelfth, thirteenth, fourteenth, and fifteenth centuries. They were so deeply rooted, that they continued to operate after the vigor and reputation of the institution itself began to decline."

MANUFACTURES, &c.

Woollen remained the chief—Beverley, (russets, and blues); Lincoln, (greens, and scarlets); and Totness, being three of the principal seats of the industry. Although so much was made at home, a large quantity was imported. There was issued, a

Regulation, 1261,—forbidding the export of wool, and directing that no woollens but those of home manufacture be worn; but was, soon, repealed.

The Flemish weavers who emigrated to England, during the Period, introduced the weaving of fine cloths, and worsted: for their protection, several statutes were passed, and the use of foreign cloths was forbidden.

Fulled woollens soon became the most important article, and a very great part, of our exports, and were used very largely in Spain, and Italy.

Fishing,—rose to be of great importance, Dee salmon, and Sandwich herrings, being in special demand.

Other native industries do not seem to have been very flourishing, if we may judge from contemporary records. Thus, in an estimate, made in Essex, for levying a tallage, 1301, the tools of a carpenter are valued at 1s., of a cobbler, 7s. 5d., and of a tanner, (whose trade embraced making military accoutrements, and much of the dress of the common people), £9 17s. 10d.

From the complaints of the native artizans, it appears that the Continent beat England in manufactures generally. It was to obviate this, that the laws restricting exports were passed.

Statutes of great stringency were passed, (instead of letting competition work out the remedy), to secure honest manufactures,—thus, by laws of

Hy. VI.—“Deceitful works of embroidery” were to be forfeited, and the Wardens of the Worsted-weavers were to seize all defective cloths and stuffs.

Ed. IV.—Deceits in putting sand-stones, grass, and dirt, into fleeces, were made criminal,—and

All cloths deficient in length, breadth, or weight, were to be confiscated.

Artificers', &c., Wages,—were, customarily, fixed, arbitrarily, by law,—*e.g.*, in 1445, the following was the tariff :—

Free masons, and master carpenters,—not more than 4d. a day with, and 5½d. without, meat and drink, in summer ; and a penny less, in winter.

Common artificers,—2d. a day with, and 3½d. without, meat and drink, in summer ; and, in winter, 1½d. with, and 3d. without, meat and drink,—while all who deserved less were to take less.

These were the maximum prices ; doubtless, the average realized would be much less. The operatives were compelled, by law, to work, on these conditions, if required.

TRADE, AND COMMERCE,

Made immense progress, especially from the time of Edward III.

The importance attached to these, as early as John's reign, is seen from the clauses relating thereto in Magna Charta.

The Period is remarkable for the interference of Government with both home and foreign trade. Amongst the regulations made regarding them, was the

Establishment of Staples, (*i.e.*, markets), where the traffic in wool, skins, leather, tin, lead, &c., was placed under certain conditions. The

“**Merchants of the Staple,**” (as those exporting these goods were called), were incorporated by Edward II.

The staples were, at first, in England, and beyond sea,—but, under Edward III., they were confined to a few large towns in England, and Ireland, (*e.g.*, Newcastle, York, Lincoln, Norwich, Westminster, Cork).

Foreign merchants were not allowed to reside in Eng-

land, except by Royal licence, until, under Edward III., a charter was granted, permitting foreign merchants to come to, and live, trafficking, in England,—the permission being, however, burdened with various hard conditions, one being that every Guild of foreign merchants should be responsible for the debts of its members.

The English mercantile

Guilds established by Edward III. were based on the monopoly principle, no one being allowed to exercise any craft, excepting that to which he had been brought up.

English Commerce began really to flourish under Edward III., who was a steady, and enthusiastic, promoter of trade.

He was the first to claim dominion over the Narrow Seas.

In his reign :—

The English merchantmen were small, but numerous : at the siege of Calais, there were nearly 800 of our ships present—47 coming from Fowey ; 43, Yarmouth ; 31, Dartmouth ; 25, London !! Each ship averaged a crew of 20.

Great improvements in navigation were made, in consequence of the

Discovery of the Mariner's Compass, (under Henry III., by Paulus, a Venetian?), which was regularly employed in the 19th century.

Under Richard II., was passed the

First Navigation Act,—forbidding the exportation, or importation, of any merchandize, in any but English vessels,—a regulation very imperfectly carried out.

Henry IV. was a distinguished patron of trade, making commercial treaties, (for securing free intercourse, safety of property for English merchants abroad, and regular payment of debts), with foreign countries.

Banks, now, began to be established in Europe,—shewing an increased trade.

Bristol, and Scarborough, are, at this time, mentioned as engaged in carrying cod-fish, from Iceland.

Under Henry VI., our merchants did a large

Mediterranean Trade,—carrying thither, chiefly, wool, and cloth.

The importance of England's commerce during the

second half of this Period is evidenced by the number of "merchant princes" who sprung up—*e.g.*, the De la Pole family; Whittington, and Hinde, (of London); Canynge, (of Bristol); and Taverner, (of Hull).

COINAGE.

Edward I., and II., both deteriorated the coinage, the latter to such an extent, that the people could not take the pieces at their nominal value.

Several new coins were introduced, until, under Richard II., we find, in use, the noble, half-noble, and quarter-noble; the groat, and half-groat; penny, and half-penny.

Edward IV. added the angel, and the angelot. Under him, deterioration pretty well reached its maximum, for, whereas, 240 pennies had formerly been coined out of 1 lb. of silver, he raised the number to 450! (Edward III. had made it 270, and Henry IV. 360.)

AGRICULTURE.

At the commencement of the Period, the monks were the principal agriculturists, and gardeners, this being the natural result of their having such rich lands attached to their various houses: their orchards, and vineyards, were, especially, flourishing, and fruitful. Many of the large estates were farmed by the owners, being tilled by their villeins.

Corn was grown largely, but unsystematically, (as the famines shew): much of the barley was used in brewing.

Arable land, (partly owing to rudeness of tilling instruments), was not well cultivated, 9 or 10 bushels, (instead of from 40 to 50), being the average yield per acre.

There was a great excess of pasture, and this was regarded as more valuable than arable, since the sheep fed thereupon yielded the wool which formed the staple export.

During the second half of the Period, a great, and notable, change took place in the condition of agriculture, by the

Substitution of the relation of landlord and tenant for that of lord and thrall,—owing to the gradual abolition of villenage.

During the Wars of the Roses, the cultivation of the

land was improved, in one respect,—since large new tracts were laid out in pasture.

Corn was, it seems, sometimes exported, spite of the small cultivation, for there was passed, an

Act, 1437, allowing corn to be carried out of England, when the price of wheat was not more than 6s. 8d. per quarter, and that of barley not more than 3s. Later on, we find a “germ” of a

Protective Law, 1463,—forbidding the import of corn, unless its price exceeded that above-mentioned.

Horticulture (says *Harrison*, in his “*Chronicle*”) greatly declined during the last hundred years of the Period, until it almost died out! As to

Wages.—Common laborers were paid as artificers, (see “*Manufactures*,” &c.)

Carters, and chief shepherds,—not more than 20s. *per annum*, with meat, and drink, and 4s. for clothing.

Common husbandmen,—15s. yearly, meat and drink, and 40d. for clothing.

Bee-Keeping,—a *penchant* with the country-people.

Cattle, and **Sheep**, rearing, (especially the latter),—were extensively pursued.

Swine—continued to be kept, in large numbers, in the forests, feeding on the “mast.”

LANGUAGE.

Under Henry III., the struggle between the A.-Saxon and Norman, which had been going on so long, issued in the development of the “Semi-Saxon,” (dating from the middle of the 12th century, when the struggle began), into

Old English, 1250: the

Old English became Middle English, under Edward III., and so remained, (though rapidly progressing to be “Modern English”), till the end of the Period.

LITERATURE.

Latin was, during the former part of the Period, the chief language of literary composition.

The *salient literary features* during the period are

1. The writing of our oldest book in English prose,—*Mandeville's Travels*.
2. The appearance of Chaucer, "the father of English poetry."
3. Wycliffe's translation of the Bible.
4. The introduction of Printing into England,—multiplying English books, readers, and authors.

EDUCATION

Made considerable progress, especially after the invention of Printing.

Several colleges were founded, at both Universities, with facilities for poor scholars.

SCIENCE.

Metaphysics, and the Aristotelian logic, formed the staple pabulum of students, but physical science began to assert its claims, especially after its great high-priest, Roger Bacon, explored so many of its paths, and recesses, (*see* "*Celebrated Persons*.") The pursuit of this branch of learning, however, was warped, and abused, by its devotees, into the forms of

Alchemy, (with the discovery of the Philosopher's Stone, and the Elixir of Life), and **Astrology**.

THE FINE ARTS.

Painting.—Henry III., who was a connoisseur, and patron, had his chapel-, and palace-, walls embellished with pictures of a religio-legendary, and historical, character.

Missal-painting,—was carried on, in the monasteries, to a very large extent, until printing did away with the making of M.S. copies. The illuminations of the Period are not to be excelled.

Sculpture,—is represented, entirely, by monumental effigies, and sculptured work in buildings, gradually becoming, as the Period advances, more elaborate. Some of the carving is remarkably delicate, simple, natural, and beautiful, with a peculiar grace of its own, but wanting in boldness of conception, and execution.

Architecture.—The early English, (or, Lancet), commencing *circa* 1150, can boast, under the first three

Edwards, of "the most brilliant and glorious epoch in the whole history of the Art,"—"for this period, and no longer, the decorated style prevailed." Its domestic aspect is almost equally worthy of attention, for "considered as mere masonry, it is impossible to surpass the accuracy, the firmness, the high finish, of the work of this period." Under Richard II., this style changed into the Perpendicular, (or Florid).

Music,—began to be cultivated by all persons of rank, and education. Minstrels continued to be honored, and handsomely patronized.

CELEBRATED PERSONS.

Authors.

POETS.

Robert, of Gloucester, 1230-85.—Monk.

Work.—*Metrical Chronicle* of English History, from Brute, the Trojan, to 1271,—very unreliable.

Baston, ?.—Carmelite monk,—taken, by Edward II., to Scotland, to celebrate his triumph, but captured, and made to sing *their* victory, by the Scots.

Robert Longland, (or, Langlande), ?.—Salopian, —Fellow of Oriel, Oxford, and secular priest, but became a follower of Wycliffe.

Work.—*The Vision of Piers Plowman*; a quaint poem, faithfully depicting the times, and containing severe strictures and sarcasms on the friars.

John Gower, 1320-1402.—Yorkshireman, —member of Inner Temple, (and, according to some, Chief Justice of Common Pleas—though the balance of opinion is against the Judge's being the same person as the poet),—friend of Chaucer,—the "moral poet."

Works.—*Speculum Meditantis*, (in Norman-French); *Vox Clamantis*, (in Latin); *Confessio Amantis*, (in English).

Geoffrey Chaucer, 1328-1400.—Born in London,—educated at Oxford, and Cambridge,—studied Law, for a short time,—became a page to Edward III., gaining his favor, and that of John of Gaunt, and was employed on several political missions,—served in the expedition to France, 1359, and was taken prisoner,—fell into disgrace, owing, it would seem, to his support of Lollardism, and,

was, for awhile, in great poverty,—received a pension, from the Crown, which Henry IV. doubled,—spent his last years in country privacy,—the “father of English poetry.”

Chief Works.—*Canterbury Tales*,—supposed to be told by a company of pilgrims to the shrine of Becket, on their way thither; *The Flower and the Leaf*; *Troilus and Cresseide*; *Legend of Good Women*.

John Lydgate, ?-circ. 1460.—Benedictine monk, of Bury St. Edmunds,—educated at Oxford,—travelled in France and Italy,—on his return, opened a school for the young nobility, teaching, *inter alia*, poetry.

Works.—*History of Thebes*; *Siege of Troy*.

HISTORIANS.

Matthew Paris, ?-1259.—Benedictine monk of St. Albans,—enjoyed the King's favor, and was sent on a mission to Norway, by Innocent IV.,—highly accomplished, and of rare integrity,—mathematician, poet, divine, historian.

Chief Work.—*Historia Major*,—history of England, 1066-1259.

Matthew, of Westminster, ?.—Benedictine monk of Westminster,—acute, diligent, versatile.

Work.—*Flores Historiarum*.

Henry Knighton, ?.—Canon of Leicester Abbey, in Richard II.'s reign.

Chief Work.—*Chronicle of English History*, 1066-1399.

Jean Froissart, 1377-1401.—Born at Valenciennes,—intended for the Church, but preferred a gay and chivalrous life,—visiting England, became a favorite of Queen Philippa,—accompanied the Black Prince to France, and, after his death, became chaplain to the Duke of Brabant, who, also dying, he entered the service of the Count of Blois,—revisited England, under Richard II., on whose dethronement, he returned to Flanders, dying there.

Chief Work.—*Chronicles*,—extending over about 80 years, ending 1400,—very interesting and valuable.

Thomas Walsingham, ?.—Born in Norfolk,—Benedictine monk of St. Albans,—great plagiarist.

Chief Work.—*History of England*, from 1273, to death of Henry V.

THEOLOGIANs.

John Duns Scotus, 1275-1308.—Theologian, and one of the most celebrated of the scholastic philosophers,—birth-place unknown, but, probably, Scotland,—educated at Oxford, where he became Professor of Theology,—entered the Franciscan order,—taught at Paris, acquiring the title, “Doctor Subtilis,” and winning great reputation by his defence of the Immaculate Conception,—in philosophy, opponent of Thomas Aquinas, founding the school of the *Scotists*, (who were Realists),—died at Cologne,—one of the greatest scholars of his day, and a very busy writer, his

Works,—of various character, filling 12 vols. folio.

(“*Duns*,” used as a name of reproach by Scotus’s opponents, originated “*dunce*.”)

John Wycliffe, (or, Wickliffe), 1324-1384.—Born, probably, at Wycliffe, Yorkshire,—educated at Oxford, where he devoted himself to philosophy, and theology, studying the Bible with earnest diligence, and, thence becoming a vigorous opponent of the Mendicants,—made successively, Warden of Balliol; Rector of Fylingham, (Lincoln), and Warden of Canterbury Hall, whence he was, however, speedily ousted,—took his D.D., and became Professor of Divinity, in his University,—appointed, by Edward III., one of the Commissioners to Bruges, to treat with the Pope about the repeal of Provisors and Præmunire, a compromise being effected,—on returning, was made Prebend of Westbury, and Rector of Lutterworth, (Leicester), where he labored with apostolic zeal, and purity, sparing not the Pope, and the friars,—his doctrines spreading amongst the common people, and exciting alarm in the Church, the issue being his citation, by the Bishop of London, to a Convocation, at St. Paul’s, where he attended, supported by Lord Percy, (the Marshal), and John of Gaunt, between whom and the Bishop, hard words passed, blows between their partizans following, and the crowded meeting breaking up in confusion,—in consequence of Bull, summoned again, by the Primate, and appeared before him, unattended, but escaped, (through the proceedings being stopped, by the Queen-mother), with a caution,—began, now, to send out his “poor priests,” to evangelize the country districts,—fell dangerously ill, 1379, at Oxford: being urged, by some friars,

who had forced their way to his bedside, to recant; cried, with startling energy, "I shall not die, but live; and again declare the evil deeds of the friars,"—recovered, to publish his Bible, and publicly attack the doctrine of transubstantiation, and was, therefor, condemned, by his University, even Lancaster being unable to support him,—had his doctrines, (which, owing to Wat's Insurrection, had come to be regarded with greater alarm than ever), declared heretical, by a Synod, in London, presided over by the Bishop, while a Royal Ordinance was issued, for the arrest, and imprisonment, of his followers, of which, however, Parliament, on Wycliffe's petition, demanded the repeal,—again cited, before the Primate, at Oxford, presented two confessions of faith, and was allowed to retire, without formal condemnation,—withdrew to his rectory, and, there, spent his last years, in peace, preaching, and writing,—summoned, (it is said), to Rome, by the Pope, but prevented from going, by bodily weakness,—struck with paralysis, in Lutterworth Church, Dec. 29, and carried home, to die on the last day of the year,—only escaped burning through so-called heresy being regarded, as yet, as only a spiritual offence. His doctrines were condemned, by the Council of Constance, by whose order, his remains were exhumed, burnt, and cast into the Swift, which, thus, "conveyed his ashes into Avon, Avon into Severn, Severn into the narrow seas, they into the main ocean, and, thus, the ashes of Wicliffe are the emblem of his doctrine, which now is dispersed all the world over." (*Fuller*).

Chief Work.—*Translation of the Bible*,—a grand production, in every way.

SCIENTIFIC, &c., WRITER.

Roger Bacon, circ. 1214 - after 1292.—*Universal philosopher.*—Born at Ilchester,—educated at Oxford, and Paris, graduating at the latter, in Divinity,—returning to England, became a Franciscan, and University Professor,—soon gained the greatest name of his day as a scientist, but, at the same time, by his fearless enquiries and teachings, and marvellous discoveries, acquired the reputation of dealing with the Evil One,—cited to Paris, by the General of his Order, condemned, and imprisoned for 14 years, regaining his liberty 1492,—supposed to have returned to England, and died, at Oxford, almost imme-

diately,—one of the greatest, and most original, scientific investigators and discoverers; the real father of the Inductive Philosophy,—suggested the telescope, and the reformation of the Calendar; knew the composition of gunpowder, and gives an account of spectacles.

Chief Works.—*Opus Magus*; *Opus Minus*; *Opus Tertium*; *Specula Mathematica*; *Speculum Alchenneum*; *Perspectiva*.

VARIOUS.

Sir John de Mandeville, ?—1372.—*Traveller.*—Born at St. Albans,—spent 34 years travelling in the Holy Land, Egypt, India, and China.

Work.—*Travels*,—full of varied interest, but abounding in the marvellous, and incredible.

Thomas Littleton, (or, Lyttleton), ?—1481.—Worcestershire man,—entered the Temple,—practised Law,—became, finally, Justice of Common Pleas,—highly esteemed, by his sovereign, and contemporaries.

Work.—*On Tenures*,—in Norman-French,—a grand work, and the chief authority on the law of Real Property, in England: Coke, (“*Coke on Littleton*”), is his best commentator.

William Caxton, 1412-91.—*Translator.*—Born in Kent,—apprenticed to a mercer, and, having served his time, went abroad, and settled in the Low Countries,—became Governor of the Society of Merchant Adventurers, and, afterwards, entered the suite of Margaret, Duchess of Burgundy,—learned the art of printing, and after, for some time, practising it abroad, brought it over to England, (as already narrated),—of great integrity, and worth.

Chief Works.—*Game and Playe of Chesse*; *Dictes and Sayings*, (said, by some, to have been printed before the “*Game*,” &c.)

Sir John Fortescue, 1420-87.—Lord Chief Justice.

Work.—*The Praise of the Laws of England*,—noble eulogy of the English Constitution.

ARCHITECT.

William, of Wykeham, 1324-1404.—Born at Wykeham, (Hants.), of respectable, but poor, parents, and indebted, for his education, to Nicholas Uvedale, Governor of Winchester Castle, whose private secretary he became,

and who introduced him to Edward III., in whose favour he rapidly rose,—became Surveyor of Works, at Windsor, rebuilding the Castle,—rose, step by step, in the Church, to be Bishop of Winchester, and, then, Chancellor, filling these offices with honor and dignity,—resigned the Chancellorship, and, owing to the influence of John of Gaunt, lost his temporalities, which, however, he recovered, on Richard II.'s accession,—founded New College, Oxford, and Winchester School, and rebuilt Winchester Cathedral,—erected great part of Westminster Hall, Crosby Hall, and other buildings: is considered, by some, the founder of English Gothic architecture,—one of the most loved, and esteemed, men of his age.

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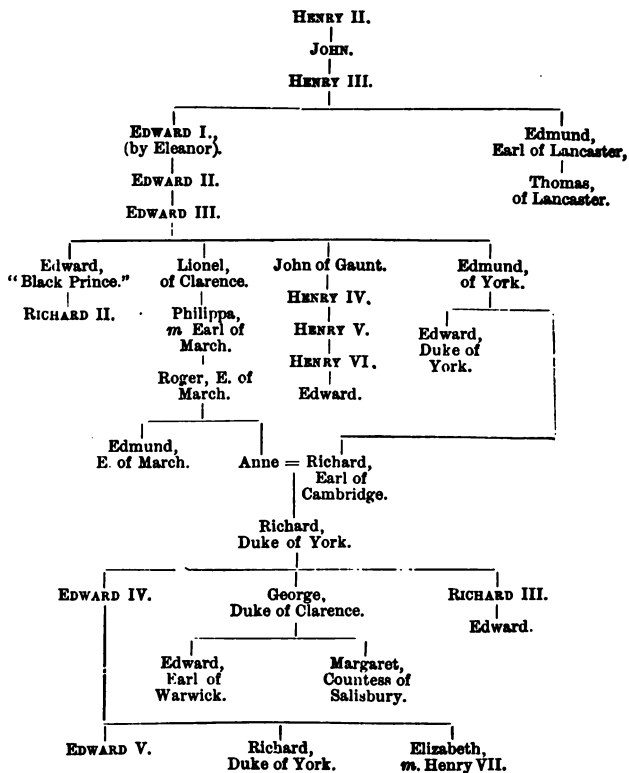
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"Fair" of Lincoln	1217	Mortmain	1279
Battle off Dover	1217	Conquest of Wales	1282
Mendicant Friars introduced	1221	Wales annexed	1284
Battle of Taillebourg ...	1242	Statute of Winchester, "De Donis"	1285
"Saintes"	1242	"Quia Emptores"	1290
Mad Parliament	1258	Jews banished	1296
Provisions of Oxford ...	1258	Battle of Dunbar	1296
Barons' War...1261-3; 1264-6		Confirmation of Charter ...	1297
Battle of Lewes	1264	Battle of Falkirk	1298
"Evesham"	1265	Wallace executed	1305
1st House of Commons...	1265	"Ordainers"	1310-11
Little War of Chalons.....	1274		

Gaveston executed	1312	Battle of Crevant.....	1423
Knights Templars suppressed	1312	Battle of Verneuil	1424
Battle of Bannockburn	1314	Siege of Orleans	1428 - 9
Battle of Boroughbridge; Lancaster executed	1322	Joan d'Arc appears.	1429
De Spensers executed	1326	Battle of Rouvrai	1429
Edward II. deposed.	1326	Joan d'Arc burned	1431
Battle of Halidon Hill	1333	1st Lord Mayor's Show }	1450
Battle of Sluys.....	1340	Cade's Insurrection }	1450
Provisors	1344	All French Possessions, but Calais, lost.....	1453
Battle of Crecy.....	1346	Wars of Roses, 1455; '59-71; '85.	
" Neville's Cross }	1346	HENRY IV.	
Siege of Calais.....	1346 - 7	Battle (1st) of St. Albans	1455
" Black Death "	1349	" Bloreheath	1459
Statute of Treasons.....	1351	* " Ludlow	1459
2nd " " "	1351	* " Northampton	1460
Battle of Poitiers.....	1356	* " Wakefield Green: (York slain)	1460
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Battle of Najara	1367	* " (2nd) St. Albans }	1461
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Wat., the Tiler's, Insurrection	1381	EDWARD IV.	
Battle of Radcot Bridge.....	1387	Battle of Towton	1461
" Wonderful " Parliament	1388	" Hedgeley Moor }	1464
Battle of Otterburne	1388	" Hexham	1464
Præmunire	1392	" Stamford	1470
Gloucester murdered	1397	Treaty of Amboise	1470
Richard II. deposed.	1399	Battle of Barnet	1471
" De Heretico Comburendo " Sawtre burnt }	1401	" Tewkesbury	1471
Glendower's, &c., Rebellion	1401 - 3	* " Bosworth	1485
Battle of Homildon Hill.....	1402	Battle of Nibley Green	1470
Battle of Shrewsbury	1403	Printing introduced.....	1473 - 4
Battle of Bramham Moor	1408	Treaty of Pecquigny	1475
Battle of Agincourt.....	1415	Clarence murdered	1478
Oldcastle executed	1417	Buckingham's Rising	1483
Treaty of Troyes	1420	(* Marks the only Lancastrian victories.)	

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